

# ARMY

# NAVY

GAZETTE OF THE  
REGULAR

## JOURNAL.

AND VOLUNTEER  
FORCES.

VOLUME XI.—NUMBER 26.  
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## REMINGTON'S



### DOUBLE-BARRELED BREECH-LOADING SHOT-GUN.

Whitmore's Patents. August 8, 1871. April 16, 1872.

We are now prepared to furnish our IMPROVED DOUBLE-BARRELED BREECH-LOADING SHOT-GUN, which we recommend as the best ever offered the American sportsman, combining all the most desirable features of the best English double guns, together with some valuable improvements not found in any other.

In the production of these guns no expense or trouble has been spared. An elaborate and complete set of machinery and gauges has been made, by means of which all the parts are produced exactly alike, and interchangeable, thus ensuring great accuracy and uniformity in the character of work produced, and affording great facility to the sportsman for replacing any parts that may be lost or broken.

The breech mechanism is a combined positive and snap-action system. The motion of opening is by pressing upward, with the thumb against the rear end of the lever, which withdraws the locking bolt and swings up the rear end of the barrels, at the same time bringing the hammers to half cock, and automatically withdrawing the cartridge shells. The movement of the barrels is limited by a very neat device, forming a joint check, which takes all the wear and strain off the joint-pin, thereby entirely obviating an objection made by many to break-down guns, on account of the liability of the joint to get loose and shaky by use. The arrangement of the hammer and hammer-lifter is such that this Gun can not be fired except when the barrels are locked. We believe this feature is not found in any other double breech-loading gun in the market.

In order to suit the requirements of our different customers, we make three styles of gun, differing only in the finish and kind of barrels and stocks, which we offer at the following prices:

Plain Walnut Stock, Decarbonized Steel Barrels,	\$45 00
Fancy Stock, Twist Barrels,	60 00
Extra Finished Stock, Damascus or other Fancy Twist Barrels, Engraved Lock Plate,	75 00

In all of these guns only the best materials and workmanship are employed. The locks and breech system are the same in the several grades, and the same care is bestowed upon the boring and finishing of the barrels. In the construction of our barrels we have adopted an improved system of boring, so that we can warrant all our guns to shoot thick, even, and with great force.

In order to enable us to offer a thoroughly well made and reliable gun at the low price of \$45, we have omitted all ornamentation of either the stock or metal work, leaving both tip and butt stocks plain. The barrels are of decarbonized steel. In the next grade, selling at \$60, a finer quality of timber for the stock, and twist barrels, is used. The wrist of butt stock is checked. The \$75 gun has a still finer quality of barrel, and the most carefully selected stocks. The wrist of butt stock and tip are checked, and the lock-plates and portions of the breech-frame are engraved.

The length of butt stock, measuring from butt plate to trigger is 14 inches. The crook of the stock, measuring from a straight edge laid along the rib of the barrel, is 2½ inches.

Length of barrel, 26, 28, 30, 32 inches. Bore, 10 or 12 gauge.

Weights, 8 to 8 3-4 Pounds—according to length of lbs.



In fixing upon the model of our gun, we have chosen what we think best adapted to meet the wants of the public. We can not vary, in ANY PARTICULAR, from the dimensions and weight before mentioned, or in the style of finish.

#### Breech Loading Shells.

"Drapers" Brass.....	per doz. \$3 00	Paper Shells, 2d quality, No. 10.....	per 100 \$3 25
"Sturtevant" "	2 00	" 12	1 75
"Berdan" "	1 50	" 10	1 50
Paper Shells, 1st quality, No. 10.	per 100 2 50	" 12	1 25

#### Primers.

For Drapers Shells.....	per box 250, \$0 25	Paper.....	per box \$0 25
" Sturtevant "	50	Felt.....	55
" Berdan "	75	Cloth.....	63

Much depends upon the wads being of good quality and proper size. For Brass Shells a wad two sizes larger than the bore should be used. For Paper Shells a wad one size larger than the bore will answer.

To remove the barrels, bring both hammers to full cock, then take off tip-stock and the barrels can be detached.

These guns have been thoroughly tested, and give perfect satisfaction in every case, their shooting qualities and breech mechanism being especially recommended.

Address

E. REMINGTON & SONS.

281 AND 283 BROADWAY, NEW YORK.

AMORY, ILLINOIS, NEW YORK.



THE IMPROVED GATLING GUN.

*From the Scientific American for Feb. 7.*

We devote our initial page this week to the illustration of another of those engines of war which are destined to play no small part in the arbitration of disputes between nations. The more formidable the weapons become, the less likely are nations to attempt to decide their differences by resort to arms, and the more destructive the means for its prosecution the shorter the duration of the conflict, and the less the amount of evil inflicted upon mankind.

We deem it unnecessary to enter into any minute description of the mechanism of the Gatling mitrailleuse, depicted in our engraving, as it has already, in its earlier and less improved forms, received ample notice in our journal, and since has elicited not only commendation from Army officers, but substantial support from foreign governments. The attention of the reader is directed to the improvements which have lately been made in its construction, rendering it, according to the inventor's statement, the most efficient battery gun yet invented.

Rapidity and continuity of fire, together with simplicity and absence of complexity of parts, are the essen-

Fig. 2



Fig. 3



part of a machine gun, and is practically the only part liable to get out of order from use. The lock mechanism of many other machine guns forms an entirety, and is so united and encased that, should any part of the same get out of order, a circumstance which is liable to happen in long and continued firing in time of action, the whole machine would become disabled, and would have to be taken to a machine shop for repairs. In such a contingency, it is needless to remark, the enemy would not be likely to await the completion of the job.

All the locks in the Gatling gun revolve simultaneously with the barrels, carrier, and inner breech, and the locks have also a reciprocating motion when

tional advantages to be noted. Each barrel is provided with its own independent lock or firing mechanism, and these are made interchangeable and strong. Should any get out of order, one or all of the locks can, in a few moments, be removed and others substituted in their places, and the gun kept in working order at all times, on the field of battle. This is a feature of great importance, as the lock mechanism is the most essential

the gun is revolved. If the barrels had to be brought to a state of rest at the time of each discharge, the inventor considers, the rapidity of fire would be greatly lessened. The Gatling gun, it also may be noted, is the only firearm in which the three sets of parts, namely, barrels, locks, and inner breech (Fig. 3) all revolve at one and the same time, and it is the only gun that loads and fires incessantly while these several parts are kept

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in continuous motion. It is impossible to load and fire the gun when either the barrel, locks, or inner breech are at rest. Each lock in the gun revolves once, and moves forward and back once, at each and every revolution of the gun.

The piece fires a shot at a time, in rapid succession, and thus by dividing the time in rapid firing into equal parts between the discharges, and preventing an accumulation of recoil, it admits, it is claimed, of large charges and heavy balls, and consequently exceptionally great range. The extreme range of the largest Gatling gun, which discharges half pound solid lead balls, is said to be over two and a half miles.

The peculiarity of no recoil existing is of special value in the defence of bridges, fords, mountain passes, etc., which are frequently attempted during darkness, fog, or storm, as also in the smoke of battle, when the movements of the enemy cannot be accurately observed. Fixing a shot at a time also allows a lateral motion of the gun to be kept up during the time of rapid firing, which result is attained by the traversing mechanism connected with the breech of the gun and the carriage, as shown in Fig. 1.

This improved traversing mechanism not only allows the gun to be traversed without moving the trail or wheels of the carriage, but enables the operator at will, and in a second of time, to change the angle of fire so as to play on the enemy should he move either to the right or to the left. In other words, the shots can be spread along the enemy's front, or can be all concentrated to one point or upon one subject, at will.

Briefly described, it consists in a horizontal cylinder which carries, on its upper side and near the right end, a T flange to enter in a T groove upon the lower side of the breech of the gun (Fig. 2), so that the latter may slide upon the flange and thus gain the necessary sweep. On the lower part of the same end of the cylinder, the ball of the elevating screw is received in a transverse groove. The cylinder extends to the left of and below the breech, and in it is longitudinally inserted a screw which carries a nut, a portion of which projects through a slot in the front side of the cylinder. The screw is actuated by a hand wheel at its extremity, by which means the nut is caused to travel along the slot. The nut has on its projecting side a socket, and in this, held by suitable catch mechanism, is a pin. The crank shaft of the gun, Fig. 3, extends through the breech and terminates in a grooved cylinder, in the channels of which the pin just mentioned enters, except when it is thrown out of gear. It is evident that, when the grooved cylinder is rotated, its curved groove acting against the pin, which is held immovable after being adjusted by the hand wheel, causes the T groove on the gun to slide along the flange on the cylinder first mentioned. By this means, the piece is caused to sweep the horizon by merely actuating the ordinary firing crank. The groove cylinder has two grooves, one curved to correspond with the number of degrees over which it is desired to swing the barrels, and the other straight, the effect of which is, of course, to allow the gun to remain stationary.

We are informed that the smallest sized Gatling gun—which fires over 400 shots per minute and which weighs only 125 lbs.—when mounted on a tripod, can be, in an instant, traversed so as to fire to any point embraced in an entire circle, thus furnishing its own support and precluding the liability of its capture by a flank attack. Finally, the inventor adds that his system admits of either large or small calibre. Eight different sizes of the guns are now made. The smallest size is the only machine gun in existence which admits of being mounted and fired from a tripod, and its lightness and effectiveness specially command it for cavalry service, mountain warfare, boat services, etc. From Figs. 2 and 3, the two principal divisions of the arm will be easily understood. Fig. 2 shows the frame and breech, and Fig. 3, the barrels, locks, and firing cranks, both views being from above.

The improved training mechanism was patented through the Scientific American Patent Agency, December 16, 1873. Further information may be obtained by addressing the Gatling Gun Company, Hartford, Conn.

*The Army and Navy Gazette* says: Another raid has been made upon the long lines of smooth-bore cast iron guns which have hitherto edged the sides of the roads in the Royal Arsenal at Woolwich. This time the 32, 24, and 18-pounders have suffered, and 6,000 tons of the lighter natures of these weapons are being carted away as rapidly as possible by the contractors who have purchased them from the War Office. Already the vast fields of ordnance which extended beyond the Gun Factories as far as the Plumstead marshes show here and there extensive gaps, more than 15,000 tons having been removed from time to time, and very soon the cast-iron smooth bore gun will be as great a curiosity in Woolwich as it was originally an universal feature. The 8-inch guns of 65 cwt., the 32-pounders of 58 cwt., and the 60-pounders of 95 cwt., have of course been retained for conversion into rifled guns with steel tubes, this "converted" nature of ordnance having proved to be exceedingly serviceable—so much so, indeed, that the forts on the Severn and islands in the Bristol Channel are already arming with them.

## THE ARMY.

### WAR DEPARTMENT.

W. W. Belknap, Secretary of War.  
Brigadier-General E. D. Townsend, Adjutant-General.

G. O. No. 7, WASHINGTON, January 30, 1874.

All commissary sergeants, hospital stewards, signal service men, and also such enlisted men (not to exceed five) as may be detailed from regiments for duty at division and department headquarters, under the provisions of General Orders No. 92, series of 1868, from headquarters of the Army, will have their rations commuted at forty cents per day when serving at stations where subsistence in kind cannot be furnished.

G. O. No. 8, WASHINGTON, February 2, 1874.

The ordnance and ordnance stores now in store at the Leavenworth Arsenal will be transferred to Rock Island Arsenal, or otherwise disposed of, and as soon thereafter as practicable the Chief of Ordnance will turn over the Arsenal to the Quartermaster-General for the use of the line of the Army.

### ABSTRACT OF SPECIAL ORDERS.

Issued from the War Department, Adjutant-General's Office, for the week ending February 2, 1874.

Tuesday, January 27.

By direction of the President, Colonel H. D. Wallen, Second Infantry, will report in person to Major-General Winfield S. Hancock, president of the retiring board convened in New York city by Special Orders No. 326, December 18, 1872, from this office, for examination by the board, as directed in telegram of the 24th instant, from this office, to the commanding general Military Division of the South.

A board of officers of the Corps of Engineers, consisting of—Colonel J. G. Barnard, Majors Q. A. Gillmore, W. P. Craighill, Godfrey Weitzel, is hereby constituted to examine and report upon the James river and Kanawha Canal project.

Mr. B. H. Latrobe, of Baltimore, having assented to serve as a member of the board, is associated with it in the discharge of this duty.

The board will convene in Richmond, Va., February 4, 1874, or as soon thereafter as practicable. First Lieutenant Thomas Turtle will act as recorder.

Wednesday, January 28.

Major G. W. Schofield, Tenth Cavalry, now on leave of absence, is assigned to temporary duty at Springfield Armory, Mass., in connection with the manufacture and trial of a certain pistol intended for the cavalry service. On completion of this duty Major Schofield will join his proper station.

Thursday, January 29.

On the recommendation of the Quartermaster-General, Captain A. F. Rockwell, A. Q. M., will report to the commanding general Department of Arizona for assignment to duty as chief quartermaster of that department.

Friday, January 30.

A General Court-martial is hereby appointed to meet at St. Louis Barracks, Missouri, on the 2d day of February, 1874, or as soon thereafter as practicable, for the trial of such cases as may be brought before it. Detail for the court: Major P. T. Swaine, Second Infantry; Captains William Hawley, Third Cavalry; Charles Bendire, First Cavalry; First Lieutenants Cass Durham, Eighteenth Infantry; F. S. Davidson, Ninth Cavalry. Second Lieutenant Wentz C. Miller, Fourth Cavalry, judge-advocate of the court.

The extension of leave of absence granted Second Lieutenant Edward M. Wright, Ordnance Department, in Special Orders No. 6, January 18, 1874, from this office, is further extended twenty days.

First Lieutenant John Tyler, First Infantry, will report by letter to Major-General Hancock, president of the retiring board convened at New York city by Special Orders No. 326, December 18, 1872, from this office, and will hold himself in readiness to appear before the board for examination when summoned.

The leave of absence granted Major S. A. Wainwright, Sixteenth Infantry, in Special Orders No. 55, October 25, 1873, from headquarters of the Army, is extended three months.

[No Special Orders issued from the Adjutant-General's Office, on Monday, February 2, 1874.

*Casualties among the Commissioned Officers of the U. S. Army reported to the Adjutant-General's Office during the week ending Saturday, January 31, 1874.*

Captain George B. Hoge, Twelfth Infantry—Retired January 31, 1874.

### HEADQUARTERS OF THE ARMY.

W. T. Sherman, Gen. of the Army of the United States.  
Colonel W. D. Whipple, Assistant Adjutant-General.

1. Major John C. Tidball, Second Artillery, will report to the commanding officer Artillery School, Fort Monroe, Va., on the 1st of May, 1874, to relieve Major G. A. DeRussey, Third Artillery, of his duties at that station. On being thus relieved Major DeRussey will join his regiment.

2. The following transfers in the Third Artillery are announced: Captain Edward R. Warner, from Company A to Company M; Captain John R. Myrick, from Company M to Company A. Captain Myrick will report for duty with his company at the Artillery School May 1, 1874, when Captain Warner will proceed to join his proper station.

3. The following transfers in the Fifth Artillery are announced: Captain George A. Kessel, from Company C to Company I; Captain James W. Piper, from Company I to Company C. Captain Piper will report for duty with his company at the Artillery School May 1, 1874, when Captain Kessel will proceed to join his proper station.

4. The following transfers are made of lieutenants of artillery, under the provisions of General Orders No. 99, November 13, 1867, from this headquarters, establishing the Artillery School at Fort Monroe, Va. The officers of the new detail will report for duty at Fort Monroe, Va., May 1, 1874, when those relieved will join their new companies. If the officers relieved join their proper stations within thirty days over and above the time necessary to reach them in ordinary course, it will be deemed a compliance with this order:

First Artillery.—First Lieutenant Edward D. Wheeler, from Company H to Company G, vice First Lieutenant Joseph P. Sanger, from Company G to Company H; First Lieutenant A. E. Miltimore, from Company L to Company G, vice First Lieutenant Edmund K. Russell, from Company G to Company L, to be relieved; Second Lieutenant Clermont L. Best, Jr., from Company G to Company A, to be relieved.

Second Artillery.—First Lieutenant John C. Scantling, from Company E to Company K, vice First Lieutenant James E. Wilson, from Company K to Company E, to be relieved; First Lieutenant Edward B. Hubbard, from Company E to Company K, vice First Lieutenant John McGilvray, from Company K to Company E, to be relieved; Second Lieutenant M. Crawford, Jr., from Company L to Company K, vice Second Lieutenant Clarence O. Howard, from Company K to Company L, to be relieved; Second Lieutenant Edmund M. Cobb, from Company B to Company K, vice Second Lieutenant Henry A. Reed, from Company K to Company B, to be relieved.

Third Artillery.—First Lieutenant Lewis Smith, from Company K to Company A, vice First Lieutenant John F. Mount, from Company A to Company K, to be relieved; First Lieutenant Constantine Chase, from Company D to Company A, vice First Lieutenant Edward C. Knower, from Company A to Company D, to be relieved; Second Lieutenant Ira Mac Nutt, from Company G to Company A, vice Second Lieutenant Charles W. Whipple, from Company A to Company G, to be relieved; Second Lieutenant Benjamin H. Randolph, from Company L to Company A, vice Second Lieutenant J. D. C. Hoskins, from Company A to Company L, to be relieved.

Fourth Artillery.—First Lieutenant Charles S. Smith, from Company K to Company I, vice First Lieutenant Charles F. Humphrey, from Company I to Company K, to be relieved; First Lieutenant Harry R. Anderson, from Company A to Company I, vice First Lieutenant Crosby P. Miller, from Company I to Company A, to be relieved; First Lieutenant William R. Quinan, Company L, to be relieved; First Lieutenant Edward S. Chapin, Company G, to be relieved; Second Lieutenant C. A. L. Totten, from Company F to Company I; Second Lieutenant J. E. Bloom, from Company H to Company I.

Fifth Artillery.—First Lieutenant Paul Roemer, from Company H to Company C, vice First Lieutenant Joseph Keeffe, from Company C to Company H, to be relieved; First Lieutenant Frank Thorp, from Company I to Company C, vice First Lieutenant Selden A. Day, from Company C to Company I, to be relieved; Second Lieutenant William B. Homer, from Company A to Company C, vice Second Lieutenant Charles R. Barnett, from Company C to Company A, to be relieved; Second Lieutenant W. H. Coffin, from Company M to Company C, vice Second Lieutenant Rollin A. Ives, from Company C to Company M, to be relieved.

5. On the request of the officers concerned, the following transfers are announced in the Twelfth Infantry: First Lieutenant Hugh G. Brown, from Company K to Company C; First Lieutenant J. S. King, from Company C to Company K.

6. The following transfer in the First Artillery is announced: First Lieutenant C. P. Eakin, from Company E to Company A. Lieutenant Eakin will proceed to join his proper station without delay.

### MILITARY DIVISION OF THE MISSOURI.

Lieutenant-Gen. P. H. Sheridan: Hdqrs'rs Chicago, Ill.

#### DEPARTMENT OF DAKOTA.

Brig.-General Alfred H. Terry: Headquarters, St. Paul, Minn.

Seventh Cavalry.—Second Lieutenant C. C. DeRadio, returning from leave of absence, to Fort Rice, D. T., being unable on account of stoppage of trains to join his proper station, January 24 was assigned to temporary duty at the headquarters of his regiment in St. Paul, for duty as acting adjutant.

Fort Pembina.—A General Court-martial was appointed to meet at Fort Pembina, D. T., February 12. Assistant Surgeon Ezra Woodruff, U. S. Army, and the following officers of the Twentieth Infantry were detailed for the court: Major J. E. Yard; Captains Loyd Wheaton, William Stanley, J. S. McNaught; First

Lieutenant Paul Harwood; Second Lieutenant J. G. Gates. First Lieutenant W. H. Maize, judge-advocate.

DEPARTMENT OF THE PLATTE.

Brigadier-General E. O. C. Ord: Headquarters, Omaha, Neb.

**Fort Bridger.**—A General Court-martial was appointed to meet at Fort Bridger, W. T., January 28. Assistant Surgeon Charles Smart, U. S. Army, and the following officers of the Fourth Infantry were detailed for the court: Captains Charles G. Bartlett, William S. Collier; First Lieutenants John W. Bubb, R. Q. M., James H. Spencer; Second Lieutenants Henry E. Robinson, Lewis Merriam. First Lieutenant George O. Webster, adjutant, judge-advocate.

**Camp Brown.**—A General Court-martial was appointed to meet at Camp Brown, W. T., February 3. Detail for the court: Major Eugene M. Baker, Second Cavalry; First Lieutenant John B. Guthrie, Thirteenth Infantry; Second Lieutenant Robert H. Young, Fourth Infantry; Frank U. Robinson, Second Cavalry; Emerson Griffith, Thirteenth Infantry. Second Lieutenant John McE. Hyde, Eighth Infantry, judge-advocate.

**Fort Fred Steele.**—A General Court-martial was appointed to meet at Fort Fred Steele, W. T., January 27. Captain Thomas B. Dewees, Second Cavalry, Assistant Surgeon John M. Dickson, U. S. Army, and the following officers of the Thirteenth Infantry were detailed for the court: Captain Nathan W. Osborne; First Lieutenants Benjamin H. Rogers, John S. Bishop; Second Lieutenants Frank Baker, John H. H. Peashine. First Lieutenant James Fornance, judge-advocate.

**Fort D. A. Russell.**—A General Court-martial was appointed to meet at Fort D. A. Russell, January 27. Captain Deane Monahan, Third Cavalry, and the following officers of the Eighth Infantry were detailed for the court: Captains Henry M. Lazelle, James J. Van Horn, Charles Porter; First Lieutenant John O'Connell; Second Lieutenants Edward Lynch, W. H. Carter. Second Lieutenant P. Henry Ray, judge-advocate.

**Omaha Barracks, Neb.**—From this post a correspondent writes, January 18, 1874: "Last evening Lieutenant Norris again helped to enliven the monotony of garrison life by a lecture, 'on School Organizations, their origin, benefits they have conferred, and are conferring upon society, etc., etc.,' and to say that it was a very powerful effort would be very tame praise for a discourse which treated so comprehensively of ancient and modern history. Lieut. Norris's example is worthy of imitation. The education of those less fortunate than he has been—is a noble work, and it would be well if all our superiors would consider that the education of the enlisted man intellectually considered, should be as much their care, as a familiarity with drill, or the rules and customs of the service."

DEPARTMENT OF TEXAS.

Brigadier-General C. C. Augur: Headquarters, San Antonio, Texas.

**Twenty-fourth Infantry.**—Leave of absence for twenty days January 16 was granted Second Lieutenant E. S. Beacom. First Lieutenant John B. Nixon, R. Q. M. Twenty-fourth Infantry, at the same date was appointed judge-advocate of the G. C. M. instituted by par. 1, S. O. No. 8, c. s., from department headquarters, vice Second Lieutenant Jacob R. Pierce, relieved.

**Twenty-fifth Infantry.**—Leave of absence for thirty days to take effect on the return of Colonel George L. Andrews, with permission to apply for an extension of eight months, January 19 was granted Major Zenas R. Bliss.

**Medical Department.**—On the recommendation of the medical director of the department, Assistant Surgeon Morse K. Taylor, U. S. Army, January 19 was ordered to Austin, Texas, to relieve A. A. Surgeon W. B. Van Duyne from duty at that post, who, on being relieved was ordered to Fort Concho, Texas, for duty at that post.

**Ninth Cavalry.**—Second Lieutenant G. W. Smith January 20 was detailed for duty as a member of the board for the purchase of cavalry horses. Second Lieutenant B. S. Humphrey at the same date was directed to report in person to Colonel Edward Hatch, to accompany him to Ringgold Barracks, Texas, and return thence with recruits for Company K.

**Fort Richardson.**—A General Court-martial convened at Fort Richardson, Texas, February 3. Detail for the court: Assistant Surgeon William H. Forwood, Medical Department; Captains Joseph Conrad, Warren C. Beach, Eleventh Infantry; First Lieutenants Thomas J. Spencer, Thomas C. Lebo, John T. Morrison, Tenth Cavalry; Second Lieutenant Albert S. Myer, Eleventh Infantry; Second Lieutenants Charles R. Ward, Frank P. Reap, Tenth Cavalry. Second Lieutenant Ralph W. Hoy, Eleventh Infantry, judge-advocate.

**Fort Sill.**—From this post comes a report of the firing into a detachment of troops of Company C, Twentieth Infantry, at 2 o'clock, on the morning of December 27, while camped for the night at Deep Red Creek. The firing party were Comanches. The fire was promptly returned, and the Indians were driven off.

MILITARY DIVISION OF THE SOUTH.

Major-General I. McDowell: Headqu'rs, Louisville, Ky.

DEPARTMENT OF THE SOUTH.

Major-General I. McDowell: Headquarters, Louisville, Kentucky.

**Medical Department.**—Leave of absence for forty days January 20 was granted Assistant Surgeon J. R. Gibson, U. S. Army, to take effect when relieved by A. A. Surgeon Frank Atkison, U. S. Army.

A. A. Surgeon Frank Atkison, U. S. Army, January 20 was ordered to Charleston, S. C., for temporary duty; and, upon the return of Assistant Surgeon J. R. Gibson from leave of absence, will rejoin his present station, Columbia, S. C.

**Commissary Department.**—Colonel Charles L. Kilburn, A. C. G. S., U. S. Army, January 20 was ordered to Cincinnati, Ohio, and Chicago, Ill., on business connected with his department.

**Chattanooga.**—The General Court-martial of which Captain H. C. Cook, Second Infantry, is president, was ordered to convene at Chattanooga, Tenn., January 24.

**Second Infantry.**—Leave of absence for thirty days with permission to apply to division headquarters for an extension of thirty days, was granted Captain Wm. Mills, January 30.

**Frankfort, Ky.**—A General Court-martial was appointed to convene at Frankfort, February 3. Detail for the court: Lieutenant-Colonel James Van Voast, Sixteenth Infantry; Surgeon William J. Sloan, U. S. Army; Assistant Surgeon P. Middleton, U. S. Army; Captain J. S. Fletcher, Jr., First Lieutenant Wallace W. Barrett, Sixteenth Infantry. Captain Caleb R. Layton, Sixteenth Infantry, judge-advocate of the court.

**Eighteenth Infantry.**—Leave of absence for twenty days January 23 was granted First Lieutenant Robert F. Bates.

Leave of absence for twenty days January 30 was granted Captain Birney B. Keeler, Eighteenth Infantry.

**Sixteenth Infantry.**—First Lieutenant Wallace W. Barrett January 23 was ordered to Lancaster, Ky., for temporary court-martial duty. When his services are no longer required, he will return to his proper station, Lebanon, Ky.

**Charleston.**—A General Court-martial was appointed to convene at Charleston, S. C., February 2. Detail for the court: Colonel Israel Vogdes, First Artillery; Captain George W. Bradley, A. Q. M., U. S. Army; First Lieutenants James L. Sherman, E. D. Wheeler, First Artillery; Second Lieutenant William Stanton, Second Artillery. First Lieutenant Allyn Capron, First Artillery, judge-advocate.

**Second Infantry.**—A General Court-martial was appointed to convene at Mount Vernon Barracks, Ala., February 2. Assistant Surgeon J. K. Corson U. S. Army, judge-advocate, and the following officers of this regiment were detailed for the court: Lieutenant-Colonel T. C. English; Captains A. W. Kroutinger, Frederick E. Camp; First Lieutenants Samuel McKeever, Charles Parkins; Second Lieutenant John Kinzie.

**Humboldt.**—A General Court-martial was appointed to convene at Humboldt, Tenn., February 4. Assistant Surgeon B. F. Pope, U. S. Army, judge-advocate, and the following officers of the Sixteenth Infantry were detailed for the court: Colonel G. Pennypacker; Captains Duncan M. Vance, Hugh A. Theaker; First Lieutenant Charles H. Noble; Second Lieutenant Samuel R. Whittall.

DEPARTMENT OF THE GULF.

Colonel W. H. Emory: Headquarters, New Orleans, La.

**Nineteenth Infantry.**—Until further orders Company G January 27 was directed to be stationed in New Orleans.

**First Artillery.**—A General Court-martial was directed to assemble at Key West, Fla., March 2. Assistant Surgeon Harvey E. Brown, U. S. Army, judge-advocate, and the following officers of this regiment were detailed for the court: Major Clermont L. Best; Captains W. M. Graham, Frank E. Taylor; First Lieutenants Chandler P. Eakin, Richard G. Shaw.

MILITARY DIVISION OF THE ATLANTIC.

Major-General W. S. Hancock: Hdq'rs, New York.

**Officers Registered.**—The following officers were registered at the headquarters Military Division of the Atlantic, for the week ending February 3: Captain Charles W. Howell, Corps of Engineers; First Lieutenant F. H. Phipps, Ordnance Department; Major G. Sawtelle, A. Q. M., U. S. Army; Captains F. H. Taylor, First Artillery; A. R. Chaffee, Sixth Cavalry; Colonel Thomas G. Pitcher, First Infantry; Captain G. V. Henry, Third Cavalry; Colonel P. V. Hagner, Ordnance Department; W. C. Barkwell, assistant surgeon, U. S. Army.

**Quartermaster's Department.**—Colonel Rufus Ingalls, A. Q. M. G. and C. Q. M. of this division, returned last week from his six months European trip, looking well and hearty.

**Commissary Department.**—Leave of absence for ten days January 31 was granted Lieutenant-Colonel Marcus D. Simpson, A. C. G. S.

Major Thomas J. Haines, C. S., Feb. 2 was directed to make a thorough inspection of the condition of affairs of the Subsistence Department at Forts Warren, and Independence, Boston Harbor, Mass., and Fort Preble, Portland, Me.

**Fifth Artillery.**—Leave of absence granted First Lieutenant John McClellan, in par. 1, S. O. No. 93, series of 1873, from department headquarters, January 26 was extended twenty days. Leave of absence for sixty days, with permission to apply for an extension of twenty days, was granted First Lieutenant Thomas R. Adams, at the same date.

**Fort Adams.**—The General Court-martial of which Captain Henry F. Brewerton, Fifth Artillery, is president, reconvened at Fort Adams, R. I., February 3.

**Second Artillery.**—A General Court-martial was appointed to meet at the Army Building, February 4, for the trial of Captain George T. Olmsted, Jr. Detail for the court: Lieutenant-Colonel Washington L. Elliott, First Cavalry; Captains Robert N. Scott, Third Artillery; Isaac D. DeRussy, First Infantry; John S. Wharton, Nineteenth Infantry; Jacob B. Rawles, James W. Piper, Fifth Artillery; Joseph G. Ramsay, Second Artillery. Major Guido N. Lieber, J.-A. D., judge-advocate of the court.

**Medical Department.**—The leave of absence granted Surgeon Lewis A. Edwards, Medical Department, in S. O. No. 5, c. s., from the post of Madison Barracks, February 3 was extended ten days.

MILITARY DIVISION OF THE PACIFIC.

Major-General J. M. Schofield: Hdq'rs, San Francisco, Cal.

DEPARTMENT OF CALIFORNIA.

**Medical Department.**—Leave of absence for thirty days, with permission to apply to the Adjutant-General, U. S. Army, for an extension of thirty days, January 21 was granted Assistant Surgeon Edwin Bentley, U. S. Army.

DEPARTMENT OF THE COLUMBIA.

Colonel Jeff. C. Davis: Headquarters, Portland, Oregon.

**Medical Department.**—A. A. Surgeon Frederick W. Sparling, at Portland, January 9 was ordered to Camp San Juan Island, for duty as post surgeon, relieving A. A. Surgeon George C. Douglas, and to proceed to Fort Walla Walla, the contract of A. A. Surgeon Steinberger being directed to be annulled.

**Payment of Troops.**—Major and Paymaster William A. Rucker, A. C. P. M., January 13 was directed to pay the troops to include the muster of December 31, at Sitka, Alaska; Major and Paymaster James P. Canby at the same time was directed to pay the troops to include the muster of December 31, 1873, at Fort Vancouver, Vancouver Arsenal, Fort Stevenson and Cape Disappointment, and Camp San Juan Island.

DEPARTMENT OF ARIZONA.

Brigadier-General George Crook: Headquarters, Prescott, A. T.

**Fifth Cavalry.**—Of a young officer of this regiment, an Arizona paper speaks thus complimentarily: Lieutenant E. P. Eckerson left early in the week for Apache. He is one of the very active, efficient officers who have done splendid service in punishing hostile Indians. His commanding officer Major W. H. Brown, spoke very highly of him to us while in Tucson lately. During a recent scout under Major Brown, Lieutenant Eckerson and his detachment made a fine killing of hostile Apaches. October 18, *The Citizen* published a report of one of Lieutenant E.'s successful scouts after Indians who stole stock from Pueblo Viejo, which showed that he does not lack persistence and endurance for the hardest service.

On the 22d of January a dinner was given to Colonel Andrew J. Smith, of Syracuse, by a few of his friends, at the Army and Navy Club, on the occasion of his departure to resume the duties of surveyor-general of the Territory of Montana. General Alexander Shaler presided, assisted by General Martin T. McMahon, and among those present were Lieutenant-General Sheridan and his aids General "Sandy" Forsyth. The other gentlemen present were General Bartlett, Colonels Reno and Lockwood, Mr. George Clark the actor, Messrs. Isaac H. and W. H. Bailey, Meares, Andrew Gill, Millsap, Motley, Henry C. Ellis, and Hayward Hutchinson, of Washington. The dinner was prolonged to a late hour with speeches, songs, and recitations, Mr. Clark especially delivering "Shamus O'Brien" with great effect. Colonel Smith has a heart as big as the territory he is appointed to survey, and the above list by no means includes all those whose good wishes go with him.

APROPOS of the recent petition in the Navy for a restitution of the old "broad blue," and the discontinuance in service of what the late Admiral Farragut was wont to designate as "a cheap and bad imitation of the Bremen flag," a good story comes to us by the last mail from Rio de Janeiro: Rear-Admiral Strong, commanding on the Brazilian station, has his flag (*i.e.* the Bremen affair), flying on board the U. S. steamer *Monongahela*; but the ship being untailed for a flag-ship, owing to the lack of quarters for the Admiral's staff, in the absence of his regular flag-ship the Admiral lives on shore. The German ship of war *Ancona*, Captain Von Reibolds, recently visited Rio, and it is presumed the usual visits were exchanged by the captains; but strange to say no salute was given by the German to the American Admiral's flag. After waiting for some days the omission became so marked that Flag Lieutenant Very was sent on board of the *Ancona* to demand a reason for the absence of the usual courtesy. When our officer's mission was explained, the German became profuse in apologies, said that he had noticed a "peculiar" flag at the mizzen of the *Monongahela*; but not knowing what it was, did not suppose for a moment it was our Admiral's flag, and inquired of the officer what our Admiral's flag was at the present time, was very sorry, etc., etc., and at once proceeded to make amends for his apparent courtesy by giving the proper salute, which was of course immediately returned gun for gun. But the moral, as La Fontaine wittily says in "Les Contes, etc.," remains, and may be drawn by our legislators in Congress to the satisfaction of all naval officers, except those who have been concerned in imposing this "cheap thing" upon the service.

COLONEL VALENTINE BAKER, the well-known and popular officer belonging to the Xth Prince of Wales' own Royal Hussars, who is at present exploring Central Asia, has been permitted to be temporarily attached to the department known at the British war office, by the name of *Intelligence*, and in consideration for his services, and from time to time for reporting information of an "intelligent" nature, the British government evidently actuated by a spirit of liberality—have been pleased to grant him (will it be believed?) free use of government paper, ink, quills, and wax; but no pay or allowances.

## THE NAVY.

The Editor invites for this department of the JOURNAL all facts of interest to the Navy, especially such as relate to the movement of officers or vessels.

## VARIOUS NAVAL ITEMS.

**THE Ossipee**, with the monitor *Ajax* in tow, arrived at Ft. Monroe, February 2.

**THE Gettysburg**, from Key West for Norfolk called in at Charleston, S. C., January 31.

**THE Omaha**, at Panama, January 23, was then under orders to sail for Callao, Peru, immediately. Commander W. K. Mayo took command of the *Omaha* on January 20, relieving Captain John C. Feibiger.

On January 31, 400 marines were landed at Key West, Fla., under the command of Lieutenant Colonel Haywood, and exercised in the manual of arms and the battalion drill. A parade was subsequently ordered, which, like the drill, went off admirably.

In the Senate, on the 2nd inst., Mr. Stevenson presented the following resolution, which was agreed to: "That the Committee on Naval Affairs be instructed to inquire into the expediency of reducing the number of navy yards and of naval hospitals, and report by bill." A petition was presented from William Kilburn, for passage of a law authorizing his restoration to the Navy as an ensign, at the foot of the class of which he was a member when he resigned.

**COMMODORE COMMERELL**, V. C., who was so severely wounded a short time since, while leading the boats up the river against the Ashanties and whose life for a time was despaired of, is so far recovered that he will in all probability be able to return to England on board his ship the *Rattlesnake*. Commodore Commerell was awarded the honor of the Victoria Cross for conspicuous gallantry against the Russians in the sea of Azof in October, 1855, and was one of the officers who received the decoration from the hands of Queen Victoria at the termination of the eastern campaign.

**THE Hartford Post** says the published statement to the effect that the suits instituted by the heirs of Capt. Colvocoresses against a number of insurance companies to recover the amounts of the policies issued by them on the Captain's life, have been settled, is premature. Negotiations have been for some time in progress for a settlement on the basis of payment of one-half the face of the policies without interest, and it is probable that such a settlement will be effected, but as yet the matter is not finally decided. The further statement that the Travelers' Company of Hartford is the only one refusing to settle, is also entirely incorrect, that company having some time ago expressed its willingness to settle on the above terms. The sum total of insurance is \$190,000, leaving \$95,000 to be paid if the settlement is effected.

Some of the officers and crews of our vessels now cruising off Key West, who have recently returned from the Mediterranean Station, may feel some little interest in learning that Vice-Admiral Sir Hastings R. Yelverton, K.C.B., the British Commander-in-Chief of that station, is shortly to be relieved in his command, and will be succeeded by Vice-Admiral the Hon. James Drummond. Admiral Yelverton is a deservedly popular officer throughout the entire British service, and during his tenure of command in the Mediterranean has gained for himself a popularity which even admirals might envy. His cool and determined conduct in the Spanish difficulties in Europe, has also made his name conspicuous, and earned for him from his countrymen a thorough appreciation, which could scarcely have been obtained had his position off Cartagena been a less invidious one.

A CORRESPONDENT writing from Hong Kong, December 12th, sends the following items of news relating to the Asiatic station: The *Hartford* left Shanghai, December 4th, and arrived at Hong Kong the 8th. On the 12th, Rear-Admiral E. G. Parrott formally relieved Rear-Admiral Thornton A. Jenkins of the command of the naval forces in this station. Admiral Jenkins returns home by way of Europe. The *Iroquois* and *Monocacy* are expected here in a few days from Shanghai. After getting stores on board the former will proceed to India, touching at Manila and Singapore; the latter to Bankook. The *Yantic* is away on a cruise to the islands in the Sulu Sea; she is to touch at Achine, and note the progress of the war there, having an eye to American interests. The *Sao* will remain until spring at Yokohama, the *Ashuelot* is still repairing at Yokoska, and the *Palos* has orders to visit coast ports between Shanghai and Hong Kong. Stores are being transferred from the *Idaho* at Yokohama and the Store House here, to Nagasaki, and it is expected that all will be finished, and the new Store House in operation, by January 1st. The *Lackawanna* is at present at the latter port where she will probably remain till the Store House business is concluded. Lieutenant G. A. Converse and Secretary Fisher accompanying the Admiral home. Messrs. F. T. Jenkins and George Reimannayder, admiral's clerks, take the next Pacific Mail steamer for San Francisco. Lieutenant W. H. Emory is to be retained in Admiral Parrott's staff for the present.

THE fleet under Rear-Admiral Case sailed from Key West, Fla., February 3, for Tortugas, whence it will probably go to Florida Bay, near Cape Roman. The following order (G. O. No. 6) was issued on February 3:

FLAGSHIP *WABASH*, (first rate) :  
KEY WEST, Fla., Feb. 3, 1874.

The North Atlantic fleet is hereby separated into three divisions in the following order:—  
1. Van or right division, Commandant Captain A. C. Rhind—1, Congress; 2, Ticonderoga; 3, Canandaigua; 4, Fortune.  
Centre division, Commandant Captain George M. Ransom—5, Colorado; 6, Wachusett; 7, Shenandoah; 8, Wyoming.

Van or left division, Commandant, Captain S. Nicholson—9, Lancaster; 10, Alaska; 11, Kansas; 12, Franklin.

The senior officer of each division will command it, and will wear a division flag at his main. He will lead his division when the right is in front and bring up the rear with the left in front. He will repeat the Admiral's signals, and when all the vessels of his command have answered his signal he will hoist an answering pennant as an indication to the Admiral that the command is prepared to obey it. When all the divisional officers have hoisted their answering pennants, and the Admiral is ready, he will haul down his signal; the divisional officers haul down their signals and answering pennants at the same instant, and the signal is executed. From the moment of sailing each vessel will keep her distinguishing pennant hoisted until she comes to anchor, when she will haul it down. When signal 413 ("get under way") is hoisted, with the preparatory over it, and answered in the manner prescribed above, it will be hauled down, when each vessel will heave to a short stay and hoist her distinguishing pennant. So soon as all have their distinguishing pennants flying signal 413 ("get under way") will be made by the Admiral, and when replied to as above directed and the Admiral is ready will be hauled down. All now weigh together. When signal 324 ("anchor") is hoisted, with the preparatory over it, and properly answered, it will be hauled down. At this instant the fleet will slow to three knots. The Admiral will next hoist 324 ("anchor"), and the moment it is most needed, each vessel will stop her engine, without waiting for a signal from the divisional officers, letting go her anchor the moment it is hauled down. When the signal is made to get under way the fleet will move out in column of vessels, with the van leading, unless another formation be signalled. If not otherwise directed, vessels will come to with their starboard anchors. All courses signalled are magnetic. Tactical signals at night will be made with Coston lights and the moment of execution denoted by the discharge of a gun. In conclusion the Commander-in-Chief calls particular attention to the explanations in the United States naval signal book, Naval Tactics of 1874, whose precepts must be rigidly adhered to by commanding officers.

A LUDLOW CASE.

Rear-Admiral United States Navy, commanding United States naval forces on the North Atlantic station.

On the 13th of March, 1873, the following Executive Commission was given by the President:

"Know ye, that reposing special trust and confidence in the integrity and ability of Brevet Major-General A. A. HUMPHREYS, of the U. S. Army, Professor BENJAMIN PEIRCE, of Mass., and Captain DANIEL AMMEN, of the U. S. Navy, I do hereby appoint them jointly and severally to be a commission for the United States, to examine and consider all surveys and plans, proposals or suggestions, of routes of communication, by canal or water connection, between the Atlantic and Pacific Oceans, occurring over or near the Isthmus connecting North and South America, which have already been submitted, or which may be hereafter submitted, to the President of the United States, during the pendency of this appointment, or which may be referred to them by the President; and to report in writing their conclusions, and the result of such examination to the President of the United States, with their opinion as to the probable cost and practicability of each route or plan, and such other matters in connection therewith as they may think proper and pertinent. And I do hereby authorize them and each of them to execute and fulfil the duties of that appointment according to law, and the instructions which they shall from time to time receive from the President, and to have and to hold the said appointment with all the powers and privileges thereto belonging appertaining unto them, the said Brevet Major-General HUMPHREYS, Professor PEIRCE, and Captain AMMEN, during the pleasure of the President of the United States for the time being."

At the time this commission was appointed, the surveys of only one route, that made by Captain SHUFELD, were completed and published and in a condition for examination. The surveys of the other routes, made by Commanders SELFRIDGE and LULL, were not completed and published, and could not be examined, and therefore the commission deferred taking any action until now. These latter, although not published, are in a condition for examination by the commission, which will meet at the Navy Department July 5, and pursue their investigations under the full authority given them by the President.

## NAVY GAZETTE.

## REGULAR NAVAL SERVICE.

## ORDERED.

JANUARY 29.—First Assistant Engineer Henry D. McEwan, to the Naval Rendezvous, Philadelphia.

JANUARY 31.—Lieutenant C. H. Meeker, to the Canandaigua. Acting Assistant Surgeon Thomas Owens, to the Naval Hospital, Norfolk, Va.

Carpenter Leonard Hanscom, to the Navy-yard, Portsmouth, N. H.

FEBRUARY 2.—Lieutenant Chas. W. Jarboe, to the Hydrographic Office.

Passed Assistant Surgeon A. F. Price, to the Powhatan.

Passed Assistant Surgeon Edward H. Ware, to the Naval Rendezvous, San Francisco, Cal.

## DETACHED.

JANUARY 29.—First Assistant Engineer C. H. Greenleaf, from the Congress, at Key West, Fla., on the 17th inst., and placed on waiting orders.

Second Assistant Engineer Wm. G. McEwan, from the Navy Yard, Philadelphia, and ordered to the Naval Station, League Island, Pa.

JANUARY 30.—Master C. W. Jarboe has reported his return home, having been detached from the Wachusett on the 24th inst., and has been placed on waiting orders.

Master E. W. Very has reported his return home, having been detached from the Shenandoah on the 23d inst., and has been placed on waiting orders.

JANUARY 31.—Lieutenant R. M. Cutts, from the Powhatan, and ordered to the Hydrographic Office, Washington, D. C.

Master Clinton K. Curtis, from the receiving ship Potomac, at Philadelphia, and ordered to the Powhatan.

Carpenter Joe E. Cox, from the Navy-yard, Portsmouth, N. H., and ordered to the Wabash, at Key West, Fla.

Carpenter Joseph P. Carter, from the Wabash, and ordered to return home and report arrival.

FEBRUARY 2.—Lieutenant Frederick G. Hyde, from the Kansas on the 24th ult., and placed on sick leave.

Midshipman George W. Menta, from the Wyoming on the 24th ult., and placed on waiting orders.

Midshipman C. L. Bruns, from the Wabash on the 24th ult., and placed on sick leave.

Surgeon G. W. Woods, from the Naval Rendezvous, San Francisco, Cal., and placed on waiting orders.

Paymaster A. J. Pritchard has reported his return home, having been detached as fleet paymaster of the North Pacific Station on the 18th ult., and has been ordered to settle accounts.

First Assistant Engineer B. C. Gowling, from the Kansas on the 24th ult., and placed on sick leave.

Sailmaker Wm. M. Howells, from the Franklin on the 24th ult., and placed on sick leave.

FEBRUARY 3.—Lieutenant-Commander R. P. Leary, from the

cruising duty at Erie, Pa., and ordered to duty in charge of recruits for the Asiatic Station, and on arrival there to report for duty on the station.

Passed Assistant Paymaster R. P. Paulding, from temporary recruiting duty on board the Michigan, and placed on waiting orders.

## REVOKED.

The orders of Master F. H. Delano, to the Shawmut, and placed on waiting orders.

## LIST OF DEATHS

In the Navy of the United States, which have been reported to the Surgeon-General, for the week ending January 31, 1874:

Wm. Edelman, marine, January 23, Naval Hospital, Philadelphia.

John A. Pounder, landsman, January 20, U. S. steamer Santa Anna, at Annapolis.

## CHANGES IN THE NORTH PACIFIC STATION.

Rear-Admiral Pennock reports in despatch of January 24, 1874, the following changes:

JANUARY 14.—Captain Thomas Pattison detached from the command of the Richmond and ordered to command the Saranac; Captain J. C. P. DeKraft, from the command of the Saranac, and ordered to command the Richmond.

JANUARY 13.—Lieutenant-Commander John J. Reed detached from the Kearsarge and ordered to the Richmond as executive.

JANUARY 19.—Lieutenant-Commander F. A. Cook and Lieutenant Washburn Maynard detached from the Saranac and ordered to the Richmond.

JANUARY 22.—Lieutenant-Commander H. C. Taylor, detached from the Saranac and ordered to await Department orders; Lieutenant-Commander Wm. B. Hoff, from duty on staff, and ordered to the Saranac.

JANUARY 19.—Lieutenant John J. Brice and Ensign (now master) H. F. Fickbush detached from the Richmond, and ordered to the Saranac.

JANUARY 6.—Paymaster George E. Hendee detached from the Richmond and ordered to the Saranac.

JANUARY 18.—Paymaster A. J. Pritchard detached from the Saranac, and from the fleet, and ordered to return home and report arrival. (Has reported return.) Pay Inspector Geo. L. Davis has arrived out and relieved Paymaster A. J. Pritchard as fleet paymaster and Paymaster Hendee as paymaster of the Richmond (to be the flag ship).

JANUARY 14.—Sailmaker Thomas O. Passett detached from the Saranac and ordered to the Richmond.

JANUARY 22.—Second Lieutenant Richard Wallach, U. S. Marine Corps, detached from the Saranac and ordered to the Marine Barracks, Brooklyn, N. Y.; Second Lieutenant George L. Bates, U. S. Marine Corps, detached from the Richmond and ordered to the Saranac.

## CHANGES IN THE MARINE CORPS.

The following are the changes in the officers of the Marine Corps since last memoranda, viz.:

JANUARY 22.—First Lieutenant R. S. Meade, granted three weeks leave of absence from January 22, 1874, and at the expiration to report at his present station.

JANUARY 27.—First Lieutenant H. J. Bishop, orders of January 6, 1874, revoked, and to report at expiration of present leave to naval commandant Brooklyn Station as the marine officer detailed to command guard of the U. S. receiving ship Vermont.

Second Lieutenant E. T. Bradford, ordered January 27, 1874, to proceed to Brooklyn, N. Y., and report to Major John L. Broome, commanding marines, for duty as adjutant at that post.

Second Lieutenant Samuel Mercer, promoted first lieutenant January 23, 1874, to rank from January 1, 1874, vice First Lieutenant L. R. French, resigned.

## NAVAL CONFIRMATIONS BY THE SENATE.

Captain Louis C. Sartori to be a commodore in the Navy from the 12th of December, 1873, vice Commodore Wm. Reynolds, promoted.

Commander Wm. K. Mayo to be captain in the Navy from the 12th December, 1873, vice L. C. Sartori, promoted.

Commander James A. Jonett to be captain in the Navy from the 6th of January, 1874, vice Captain Thomas G. Corbin, retired.

Commander Thomas S. Fillebrown to be a captain in the Navy from the 6th of January, 1874, vice Captain Egbert Thompson, retired.

Lieutenant-Commander Joseph D. Marvin to be a commander in the Navy from the 12th of December, 1873, vice Commander Mayo, promoted.

Lieutenant-Commander Jas. O'Kane to be a commander in the Navy from the 6th of January, 1874, vice Commander Jonett, promoted.

Lieutenant-Commander Sullivan D. Ames to be a commander in the Navy from the 6th of January, 1874, vice Commander Edward E. Stone, retired.

Master William H. Everett to be a lieutenant in the Navy from the 12th of December, 1873, vice Lieutenant-Commander Marvin, promoted.

Master James M. Hawley to be a lieutenant in the Navy from the 6th of January, 1874, vice Lieutenant-Commander O'Kane, promoted.

Master Thomas H. Stevens to be a lieutenant in the Navy from the 6th of January, 1874, vice Lieutenant-Commander Swann, promoted.

Master Andrew C. McMechan to be a lieutenant in the Navy from the 6th of January, 1874, vice Lieutenant-Commander Ames, promoted.

Ensign Walter S. Holliday to be a master in the Navy from the 2nd of December, 1873, vice Master F. E. Howes, resigned.

Ensign Edward M. Hughes to be a master in the Navy from the 12th of December, 1873, vice Master Everett, promoted.

Ensign James D. Keeler to be a master in the Navy from the 6th of January, 1874, vice Master Hawley, promoted.

Ensign Herman F. Fickbush to be a master in the Navy from the 6th of January, 1874, vice Master Stevens, promoted.

George E. H. Harman and James H. Gaines of Maryland to be assistant surgeons in the Navy to fill vacancies in that grade.

Rev. James H. H. Brown of Pennsylvania to be a chaplain in the Navy to fill a vacancy.

Assistant Naval Contractor Theodore D. Wilson to be a naval contractor in the Navy to fill a vacancy.

## MARINE CORPS.

Second Lieutenant Samuel Mercer to be first lieutenant in the marine corps from the 1st of January, 1874, vice First Lieutenant Lyman P. French, resigned.

## ANSWERS TO CORRESPONDENTS.

T. M., Dodge City, Kas.—Captain R. W. Shufeldt is at present executive officer, Navy yard, Brooklyn, N. Y.

Letters have been received at this office for the following persons: General E. McClellan; General Mott, Egyptian army—3 letters; General Dom Carlo Buol; General Ward; Colonel James F. Curtis; Colonel C. H. Legare; Colonel J. B. Moulton; Colonel A. W. Hart; Captain M. Earle; Captain John McCullough; Captain M. J. O'Rouke; Captain J. W. McClure; Captain G. R. Vernon, late U. S. Army; Captain O. O. Potter; Lieutenant-Colonel J. B. Sinclair; Lieutenant J. B. Jerome; Lieutenant W. A. Cameron; Major F. D. Ogiby; Commander of the school ship Mercury; C. L. Manning, Esq. M. Berry, late captain, U. S. Army; Thomas Lewchy; Teacher, care ARMY AND NAVY JOURNAL.

**REDUCTION OF THE MILITARY ESTABLISHMENT.**

From the "notes of consultation of the Committee on Military Affairs of the House of Representatives, with General W. T. Sherman, Adjutant-General Townsend, the Secretary of War, etc.," on the subject of the proposed reduction of the military establishment, we take the following detailed statement by General Sherman of the present location, condition and services of our various regiments of artillery, cavalry, and infantry:

**GENERAL SHERMAN**—The regular Army now is a very curious compound. In my office I have no authority, control or influence over anything but the cavalry, artillery, and infantry, and such staff officers as are assigned by their respective chiefs, approved by the Secretary of War, and attached to these various military bodies for actual service. I would term these—the cavalry, artillery, and infantry, with their respective officers serving with them—the Army of the United States. The rest simply go to make up the military peace establishment. As a matter of self-interest, as well as of opinion probably, (that of a soldier in contradistinction to that of a citizen) I do not think that this force should be reduced in number, either as a nucleus on which to build a future military establishment, or as a force to meet the exigencies of the present state of our country. If, therefore, the necessity for economy is so urgent, I advise that the pruning-knife be applied to what I would call those branches of the military peace establishment outside of the active regiments. Whether such a pruning-knife can be applied with wisdom or not, I cannot say, but my judgment is that the present ten regiments of cavalry, five regiments of artillery, and twenty-five regiments of infantry cannot be reduced in numbers or efficiency, consistent with the good of this country.

**The Chairman**—Can any of the military posts that are now occupied be abandoned advantageously?

**General Sherman**—They are daily, weekly, and monthly, being reduced as fast as settlements supply their places. Some of what are called military posts, are mere collections of huts made of logs, adobes, or mere holes in the ground, and are about as much *forts* as prairie-dog villages might be called *forts*. These are being abandoned every day. There are certain strategic or key points all over the United States, from Maine to Louisiana, and from Louisiana back again to Oregon, which we ought to hold forever, as a people, in the military interests of the nation. I think there may be nearly two hundred posts now occupied, not *forts*, but mere posts occupied by the present army. These probably, in the progress of development and of history, will be concentrated down to thirty or forty. On our sea-board, my judgment has always been that we occupy too many little insignificant posts called *forts* or batteries, which might as well be washed into the sea, and the quicker the better. There are a great many arsenals, over which I have no control, which in my mind are worse than useless; and I have no doubt that we occupy a great many posts in the Indian country to-day, which next week or the week after we may abandon with profit, but which cannot be abandoned by an order from Washington without exposing life and property.

I have in my hand a statement prepared by the Adjutant-General of the Army, which indicates every post from which post returns are made. I have not made up this statement myself, and would have to go over each item in order to answer your question fully, and I rather think that that is more than you expect. This paper gives a list of every post from which post returns are made. Detachments may be, and often are, sent out from those posts to other posts not named herein, but they are called back again. These constitute the regular posts. For instance, the First Cavalry occupies Benicia Barracks, California; Fort Klamath, Oregon; Camp McDermot, Nevada; Fort Lapwai, Indian Territory; Fort Walla-Walla, Washington Territory; Camp Harney, Oregon, and Camp Halleck. These are six or seven distinct posts, stretched from our northern boundary down into Nevada, a distance of about eight or nine hundred miles of frontier, right in the midst of Indians. Now for me, or for the Secretary of War, or for the President of the United States to order a discontinuance of any one of these posts, would be simply to expose life and property in the neighborhood to immediate danger. Therefore I answer that question in the negative. We cannot order the discontinuance of any of these forts.

**The Chairman**—State whether or not the Indians there are hostile in their conduct and character?

**General Sherman**—They are of a mischievous nature; semi-hostile; and would be converted into hostile the very moment troops are withdrawn. Some people trust them. I do not. We did trust the Modocs, and we got the worst of it.

The Second Cavalry occupies Fort Sanders, Wyoming Territory, Fort Fred Steele, Camp Stambaugh, Camp Brown, Camp Douglass, Fort Laramie, and Fort Ellis, with a detachment at Omaha barracks. That regiment is, therefore, strung from the Pacific Railroad, in the neighborhood of Cheyenne, northward through the Rocky Mountains up to Fort Ellis in Montana, at least eight hundred miles of frontier. They are in the presence of probably three thousand of the most dangerous and hostile Indians on this continent.

**Mr. Hawley, of Connecticut**—Three thousand fighting men?

**General Sherman**—Yes. Sitting Bull, Bull Bear, Red Cloud, and these fellows, can have three thousand Sioux for actual war if occasion arises. As long as they have not a cause of grievance, as long as they have plenty of game, and can get presents from the Indian Bureau, they will remain pretty quiet, but as soon as we undertake to send wagons or stock through

their country with anything that would tempt the Indians, we have to send escorts along with them equal to a regiment of men, or else we have to fight the whole way through.

Then take the Third Cavalry. It is now at Fort MacPherson, Nebraska, Sidney barracks, Fort Fetterman, Fort D. A. Russell, and Fort Sanders. This regiment, therefore, occupies posts extending from Fort Fetterman, in Wyoming Territory, which is about ninety miles west of Laramie, to Fort McPherson, in Nebraska. The regiment is in splendid order. I have no doubt that its presence at Fort McPherson, where the bulk of the regiment is, is of great utility. The regiment is doing good service in preventing the accumulation of hostile Sioux on the head-waters of the Republican.

This is a fine buffalo country, and a favorite resort of the Indians. The presence of that regiment there has enabled the States of Kansas and Nebraska to extend their frontier settlements two hundred miles within the last two years. Probably over 50,000 people have extended their homes westward by reason of having the Third Cavalry there. When I passed over that country in 1865-'66-'67 there was no population in it or near it. No man could go west of the Little Blue without running one chance in three of having his scalp taken. Now there are counties laid out; there are county courts and roads. I have no doubt that from one to two millions of acres of public lands have been entered since 1866 by reason of the occupation of that line of posts, which could not have been done but for those posts. Therefore I say the Third Regiment of Cavalry has rendered such service by occupying these posts that I would not abandon one of them. I would rather obliterate some town in the east here, which does not do half as much good.

Then take the Fourth Cavalry. The Fourth Cavalry, by special instructions, is united in Texas, on the Upper Rio Grande, at Fort Clark and Fort Duncan, in order to guard against intrusions on our territory by nomadic Mexicans and Indians. This is a very fine regiment and is kept almost united to guard against not only Indians but Mexicans, who have from time to time crossed our border and attacked the settlements on the Upper Nueces and Upper Rio Grande for the purpose of stealing horses and cattle.

The Fifth Cavalry is now in Arizona. It can hardly be said to be occupying any place, as it is on the go all the time. It has detachments at Camp Verde, Camp Apache, Camp Bowie, Camp MacDowell, Camp Grant, Camp Lowell, and Fort Whipple. It occupies the whole valley of the Gila, with detachments at the foot of the White Mountains, near the capital of Arizona, which is called Prescott. This regiment, I have no doubt, has had harder service within the last two years than any regiment of cavalry had in the service of the United States during the civil war. It numbers about nine hundred and thirty-five men, according to this list, but there are in the field probably about eight hundred men. Under the leadership of General Crook, it has subdued the wild Apaches, who are now as much afraid of this regiment as Indians ought to be afraid of our soldiers. General Crook, with this regiment and some infantry, has restored comparative peace to that country; not peace exactly, but such peace only as can exist in that miserable desert land. If you, gentlemen, will get Mexico to take Arizona back, I will agree to knock two regiments of cavalry from our estimates. But, as Tom Corwin used to say, "it is our country, and therefore we must love it and protect it."

**The Chairman**—How much more does it cost to maintain cavalry there than in other parts of the country?

**General Sherman**—It costs three or four times as much as it costs in Nebraska. It is the most costly place in the world for the maintenance of troops. Nearly all supplies go from San Francisco; but some barley can be bought in parcels there, for they raise some grain in scattered districts; but to haul it even sixty miles in that country costs more than to transport it from Boston to Omaha. The garrisons are mere squads. The Apaches are now behaving very well, because they are afraid of General Crook. But they are extending their incursions into Mexico, and I have been expecting every moment that they will involve us in some international quarrel or controversy, because these Apaches are our subjects, and yet they openly and without concealment go off their reservations and make incursions into Sonora and Chihuahua, and the people of those provinces threaten to follow them back into our territory, and I believe they will do so. I would not blame them if they did. We cannot restrain these Indians, except by keeping them under absolute military control.

The next regiment I come to, in the list, is the Sixth Cavalry. This regiment in the summer-time is always in the saddle, scouring the country from Fort Hays, in Kansas, along the Upper Arkansas River, and along the northern boundary of what is called the Indian Territory. In winter-time it keeps to the forts, viz., Fort Riley, Fort Hays, Fort Wallace, Fort Dodge, and Fort Lyon. I suppose the length of this line of posts is about four hundred and fifty miles. But in the summer-time, and in the spring, the regiment is scouting three hundred miles north of it, and four hundred miles south of it. If there were any gentleman from Kansas here, and if I were to say that the Sixth Regiment of Cavalry could be dispensed with, you would hear from him. It is a good regiment. There is no better regiment in the world for its size and efficiency.

The Seventh Cavalry was recently in the south. Last summer it was ordered away north, to the extreme northern boundary. Two companies formed an escort for the commissioner to survey the boundary, under the treaty with Great Britain. The other ten companies, under General Custer, served as a reconnoitering party on the line of the Northern Pacific Railroad, which reconnaissance extended from the Missouri

River at Fort Abe Lincoln, in Dakota Territory, about five hundred miles west in the direction of Montana. The reconnaissance was sent out to enable the surveyors to explore the country through which the Northern Pacific Railroad (which was considered a national enterprise) was to be built. All the military authorities coincided in the necessity for sending out that reconnaissance. It has been severely criticised by the newspapers; but, nevertheless, it had to be done in the interest of the progress of that railroad, which is one of the great trans-continental ways, interesting especially to the northern States and the northern Territories, viz., to Dakota, Montana, and Washington. That regiment is, of course, now frozen up for the winter, and is housed; but we know perfectly well, and I have been informed by the commissioner for running the boundary, Colonel Archie Campbell, that he will need a great deal more than two companies of cavalry next year to defend him and his associates, because the extension of the line from the point where they left off, this summer, to the Rocky Mountains, will carry them through the Blackfeet country, and they may have to fight their way.

The Seventh Cavalry, in my judgment, has rendered eminent services. To-day it is frozen up; but in the spring of the year it will be on the wing. It is now at Fort Abe Lincoln, as its headquarters, and stretches along the Northern Pacific Railroad, from the Red River of the North to the Missouri River; or rather from Fort Snelling westward as far as the Missouri River, about five hundred miles. That is merely their winter quarters; in summer they will scout as far west as Powder River, Milk River, and the Upper Missouri.

The Eighth Cavalry is in New Mexico, another of those delightful lands acquired from old Mexico at the end of our Mexican war. We have got it, and we have got to take care of it, unless you can prevail on Mexico to take it back. The highest point occupied by our troops is Fort Garland, in what is called the San Juan Valley. To the westward of it is Wingate, a post that is necessary in connection with the Navajo Indians; Fort Union to the east, where the mail-road comes into New Mexico. Down the valley you have Fort Bayard, Fort McRae, and Fort Craig. To the right and left, in the lower valley, you have Fort Stanton and Fort Cummings—we call it Tularosa; so that regiment covers, substantially, the whole of New Mexico, protecting the native population as against the Indians, and protecting the Indians as against the native population. Between them there is, and has been for three hundred years—longer than this country has been settled—a war, and the soldiers have to catch the knocks of both. As long as that condition of affairs lasts, you will have to keep a regiment of cavalry there. If we should disband the Eighth Cavalry to-morrow, we would have to replace it within three weeks, or else acknowledge that we are incompetent to defend our own territory. It is not worth the cost of defence, but that is not our business.

The Ninth Cavalry is in Texas. The Ninth is a colored regiment. There are twelve companies, all commanded by white officers; and that regiment has certainly fulfilled the best expectations entertained by the friends of the negro people; they are good troops, they make first-rate sentinels, are faithful to their trust, and are as brave as the occasion calls for. I wish to bear this my testimony, my willing testimony, to their excellence. Many people suppose that I have personal prejudice against black troops; that is an entire mistake. I do confess that I prefer white troops; but these black troops have fulfilled everything expected of them. This regiment, the Ninth, occupies the forts on the southern frontier of Texas, viz.: Fort Concho, Fort McKavitt, Fort Davis, Ringgold barracks, Fort Brown and Fort Stockton. They are distributed, under the direction of the Department commander, General Augur, as experienced and trustworthy an officer as can be found in any country, and they scout forward and in the intervals of their camps. That line of posts protects the frontier against nomadic Indians and against the incursions of Mexicans who come over the Rio Grande to steal cattle and horses. The southeastern part of Texas is a valuable country. In due time it will fill up with a good population, and although this process is very slow, it is bound to come. But so long as the country is in its present condition, I do not see how you can help covering and protecting that frontier, and that cannot be done cheaper than it is now done by the present cavalry. Take away the Ninth Cavalry and the settlements of Texas would fall still farther back, and other troops would have to be raised a second time to recover the country thus surrendered or lost.

The Tenth Cavalry is also a colored regiment. It is stationed farther north, on the northern and western skirt of the Texan frontier, and it extends up into the Indian country, occupying from Fort Concho, in Texas, northward to Fort Sill in the Indian country. Its headquarters are at Fort Sill. That regiment is exactly like the Ninth; the officers are white and very good. The strength of these colored regiments is a little less than the average strength of the white regiments. The Ninth has seven hundred and ninety-eight men and the Tenth seven hundred and eighty-eight men; but still we succeed in getting recruits enough to keep the ranks pretty nearly full. That part of the Texas frontier is more important than the southern part. That whole frontier has been garrisoned ever since the acquisition of Texas from Mexico, viz., since 1846. The line of posts has been changed from time to time, but we have substantially settled down to the present line. The sites of the different forts belong to individuals under State laws, and they have given a great deal of trouble, but I believe that this matter is now in process of settlement. Some of these posts will have to be abandoned, but they will have to be replaced by others equally costly. Take Fort Richardson by way of illustration. We could to-day give up Fort Richardson because there

are people enough near there, at Jacksborough, to defend the neighborhood, but there is a wide gap between Fort Griffin and Fort Sill which we will have to occupy with a detachment; and the water about there is so bitter that the officers have not yet settled on the point best suited for an intermediate post.

Now, I have accounted for every one of our ten regiments of cavalry. I do not believe that you can dispense with a single soldier in these ten regiments, nor do I believe that you can do much in the way of economizing in their maintenance; and yet they are as necessary as troops were on the line of operations in any of our army movements during the civil war.

The Chairman—Now come to the artillery.

General Sherman—The First Artillery now occupies our Atlantic sea-border from Charlestown, (which is the headquarters,) around by the south as far as Pensacola. The points occupied are Charlestown, Savannah, Saint Augustine, Key West, Fort Jefferson, Fort Barancas, and there is one company of this regiment at the artillery school at Fort Monroe, Va. The necessity for guarding our Atlantic sea-coast is as old as the country itself. At each of these posts necessarily is collected a large amount of valuable property—property which is peculiarly liable to destruction, some of which has cost as much as \$10,000,000. It is stated in regard to that old fort at Saint Augustine, that the King of Spain looked through a spy-glass across the Atlantic to see if he could not see that fort shining, on account of the amount of gold which was spent on it. These forts are very costly, very liable to injury and destruction; with magazines containing powder and stores which may be robbed at any moment, with shot and shells, which may be carried off by fishermen, to be used as anchors, with parapets, which, if neglected, may be washed away by rain-storms, and with glacis, which may be easily converted into pasture-fields. Therefore, as property, these forts must be taken care of, either by soldiers or by hired men. I doubt very much whether you can economise on that frontier, because that one regiment is already stretched as long as it can be stretched, and ever since 1838 there has been a regiment of artillery distributed pretty much as that regiment is now.

I come now to the Second Artillery. It occupies the sea-coast forts from Charleston, north as far as and including Fort McHenry at Baltimore, with detachments in the interior at Raleigh, and some other points in North Carolina, being shifted about there subject to the requisitions of the marshal of the district. These forts are, in my judgment, with the exception of Forts Monroe and McHenry, useless. Take, for instance, Fort Macon and Fort Johnson on the coast of North Carolina. They are perfectly useless, for there is no channel at these points that war-vessels could make use of. There is one company at Fort Johnson containing fifty-six men. Fort Foote, here on the Potomac, is to protect Washington. There are fifty-seven men there to protect us all from invasion by the fleets of England and Spain. At Forts Macon, Foote, and Johnson, there is one company for each. Fort Washington, on the Potomac, is at present undergoing repairs, and Fort Foote, which is opposite Alexandria, temporarily replaces it.

The Third Artillery takes up the same line of sea-coast northward, with one company detached at the artillery school at Fort Monroe, Va. This regiment occupies all the batteries and forts from the Delaware up, including all the forts in New York Harbor, and in the interior of New York. There is one inland at Niagara and one at Madison barracks, Sackett's Harbor. Of course the forts about New York City are so valuable, so costly, and so important, that, in my judgment, there should not be less than a whole regiment of artillery skilfully and actively employed there at all times, in peace and in war. In time of war we could re-enforce them by volunteer troops from the city of New York very promptly. But the forts, with their parapets, glacis, guns, and magazines, should be ready for an emergency at any moment.

The Fourth Artillery is on the Pacific Coast, occupying every station from Sitka down to San Diego. There are two companies at Sitka, one at Fort Stevens, one at Alcatraz Island, one at San Diego, one at Point San Jose, one at Cape Disappointment, and six at the Presidio. That is the only regiment of artillery on the Pacific Coast. It has charge of these forts, keeping them in order and keeping the troops instructed in the art of artillery. Occasionally small detachments are sent into the interior when their assistance is required. That was the case in the Modoc war. We stripped our posts and sent the whole of the artillery into the interior to assist the cavalry in the Modoc war. But habitually they are employed in the sea-coast defences.

The Fifth Artillery occupies the remainder of our Atlantic border, northward and eastward to the British boundary, embracing Fort Adams, Rhode Island; Fort Warren, Massachusetts; Fort Independence, Massachusetts; Fort Trumbull, Connecticut; Fort Preble, Maine, and Plattsburgh and Madison barracks, New York. Of course every member of this committee must have a sufficient knowledge of the cost and value of these military works to judge whether it be necessary to keep them in the order in which they are kept; and, as everything in this world is perishable, even granite, and especially earthen slopes and parapets, you will have to keep these forts in order or else let them go to decay, and there is no cheaper way of keeping forts in order than by having them in charge of soldiers who know what they are about.

That completes the artillery arm of the service. In my judgment, you have no more valuable servants under the Government than these five regiments of artillery. Their work is a specialty. You cannot teach men the artillery art or profession, (call it what you may,) excepting by actual practice with guns and men. I look on these five regiments as simply five separate schools, and in twenty-four hours you can increase them into complete garrisons for every sea-coast fort on our border, by simply adding firemen or

uniformed militia from the most convenient neighborhoods. Many of the companies number as low down as forty-four, forty-one, thirty-one, and twenty-four, and so on, (reading from the record,) but they can be swelled up suddenly to a full complement so as to hold and defend these forts against any enemy whatsoever.

The Chairman—Would it not be better policy to increase the artillery school and to diminish the artillery regiments?

General Sherman—No, sir; every artillery regiment and company is now a school of practice.

The Chairman—Would you not get a more intelligent class of men by having them trained at the artillery school?

General Sherman—No, sir; we have an artillery school now that does not cost a cent extra, but which is simply the aggregation of five companies, one from each regiment. It is called the artillery school, but it is simply a garrison of five companies, with special instruction for junior officers and non-commissioned officers recently from civil life.

The Chairman—The question is whether or not something should not be done in the direction of an artillery school?

General Sherman—My own judgment is that all of the artillery should be a school for artillery. It is hardly an Army in the strict sense of the term. As it stands, it is the cheapest nucleus in the world for that particular branch of service. That is how I regard it. The work of artillery can only be learned in actual war, or by active and constant instruction. You may call these regiments artillery, and charge them against the Army as so many men, but really they are not doing that service against the public enemy which, naturally, the people at large expect of the existing Army. But that body of men, officers and soldiers, will be very useful to you, in case you suddenly find yourself involved in a war with Spain or Great Britain. If you were to disband them to-day, you could not replace them to-morrow for fifty times the cost.

We now come to the infantry. The infantry comprises, of course, the mass of all armies. It is the cheapest, best, and most serviceable of all, and yet, generally, by common usage, it is kept lowest down. Our infantry regiments are very small. The First is only four hundred and thirty-two men. The companies run along from twenty-six men to thirty-seven, forty, fifty-five, forty-two, twenty-four, and so on. They are scattered along the whole northern frontier. The chief use of this regiment is the maintenance of our flag and the protection of public property along the whole northern frontier. To call the garrisons an Army is simply a misnomer. They are little squads of men strung along the frontier of fifteen hundred or sixteen hundred miles. Of course they do not defend that frontier against any public enemy, but they keep possession of points which are deemed military points, such as Sault Ste. Marie, Mackinaw, and Saint Clair Straits, at and near Detroit. Then you come to the neighborhood of Buffalo where Fort Porter is, and so on east to Madison barracks, which is at Sackett's Harbor, Lake Ontario.

The Second Infantry is scattered throughout the South, with companies at Atlanta, Ga., Huntsville, Ala., Chattanooga, Tenn., and Mount Vernon barracks, Ala. This regiment is there merely because the civil authorities require some troops near them occasionally. The strength of the regiment now is four hundred and seventy-nine men.

The Third Infantry is strung along the Kansas Pacific Railroad, which leads from Southern Kansas to Denver. It forms depot garrisons. The posts average about one hundred and twenty miles apart. They are all built and in very good order, but they require some little repairs now and then. This regiment is grouped along that road so as to be kept as near together as possible. The total strength is six hundred and six men. If any of you travel that road, you will be glad to see the flag at every hundred miles or so, because the Indians traverse that country very often, particularly the Cheyennes, but for the last two or three years they have not done a particle of harm. I think, however, that if we were to withdraw that regiment there would be some manifestations of Indian hostilities, though I am not certain, because the country has of late much increased in population and resources. The settlements are creeping along the line of railroad just as leaves follow the limb of a tree; but the people cling to these garrisons as nuclei. As surely as you draw off a regiment from there, an equal necessity will arise for its use somewhere else.

The Fourth Infantry is, in like manner, posted along the Union Pacific Railroad, mostly on the upper sources of the Platte near it. The companies are grouped about Fort Bridger, Fort Fetterman, on the north fork of the Platte, Fort D. A. Russell, Fort Sanders, and Camp Douglas, in Utah. That regiment occupies but five posts, with two companies at each, about eighty, ninety, or one hundred men at each point.

The Chairman—Is infantry as valuable as cavalry at such posts?

General Sherman—No, sir; it is not so valuable.

The Chairman—Could not a smaller number of cavalry avail more than a much larger force of infantry?

General Sherman—I doubt it, because cavalry-men are all the time taken up with the care of their horses and are off on scouts. Besides, cavalry costs a great deal more than infantry.

The Fifth Infantry at the close of the year 1873 occupied the posts of Fort Gibson in the Indian Territory; Fort Larned and Dodge on the Upper Arkansas, and Fort Leavenworth, in Kansas. That regiment is now under orders, for what we expect may result in actual hostilities with the Kiowas and Comanches, in the month of February. The Indian Department has, I believe, confessed its inability to control these Indians. General Sheridan was summoned here, and there was a conference at which it was agreed that with the Sixth Cavalry and the Fifth Infantry General Sheridan

should go for them in the early spring; that is, in February, when the Indian ponies are all poor. At present this regiment is ready to take the field, but their preparations are somewhat concealed.

The Sixth Infantry occupies Fort Buford, in that remote country in Dakota near what is called the Big Bend of the Missouri, where the Yellowstone joins the main Missouri Valley. The next post below it is Fort Stevenson, and from there it connects with Crittenden's regiment, the Seventeenth, at the new post, Abe Lincoln, where the Northern Pacific Railroad first reaches the Missouri River. That shoulder of the Missouri River has been long occupied by the Hudson Bay Company, the American Fur Company, and for the last ten years by the United States troops. The posts used to be known as Fort Union and Fort Berthold. As we had another Fort Union we changed its name to Buford, and Fort Berthold is now moved to Fort Stevenson, a short distance below. That shoulder of the river is a military point which probably will have to be occupied forever by troops, for the land is infinitely poor and there is no chance for any settlements there or thereabouts.

The Seventh Infantry is in Montana; the whole of it. It occupies four posts: Forts Shaw, Ellis, and Benton, and Camp Baker. This regiment is used entirely to keep a show of defence on the frontier looking eastward in the new and very fine Territory of Montana. That Territory is rapidly filling up with a most excellent population. At this moment, I suppose, it contains thirty thousand people, who are engaged in agriculture, the rearing of cattle, and the development of mines. In my opinion, it is the most promising of our new Territories; for its defence we therefore use one regiment of infantry, of less than six hundred men, and four companies of cavalry. The people are constantly clamoring for more, but have invariably been answered that it is the full proportion of the Regular Army that can be given for their defence, and they have managed to keep the peace very well indeed, and the Territory is now prospering.

The Eighth Infantry is strung out on a portion of the Union Pacific Railroad, with detachments north and south, between the Black Hills and Utah. These posts are Fort D. A. Russell, Camp Stambaugh and Beaver City, which is some ninety miles below Salt Lake, and a new post north of Stambaugh, called Camp Brown, which was forced upon us by those marauding Indians. Some Indians killed some settlers in Wild River Valley, last summer, which convinced General Ord, who commands that department, of the necessity of sending two more companies there, along with some cavalry. The governor of Wyoming is now in this city, and the bishops of several churches have applied in behalf of that scattered population of Wyoming for more troops; but they have received the answer that they have got all we can spare for that Territory. Their settlements are very scattered. It is a mountain country, with some pastoral regions, especially the Laramie plains, which are gradually filling up with a stock-raising population. But it is right on the highway to California and Utah, and we have always deemed it of infinite importance to keep that road so safe that not only our own people might traverse it in security, but that foreigners coming from Australia, India, and from Asia, generally, toward Europe, may also be induced to cross our country; and the Pacific Railroad I deem to-day as safe to travellers as the New York Central. It has been made so, not altogether, but in a great measure, by the presence of the troops stationed there for the last eight years, and by their activity.

The Ninth Infantry is also guarding that road from Fort D. A. Russell eastward. It is strung along in small detachments from Omaha out to Fort D. A. Russell, a distance of about six hundred and forty miles. They leave their traps at Omaha and at D. A. Russell, and establish no posts, but occupy the railroad depots. You may say that that regiment is picketing the Union Pacific Railroad from its commencement on the Missouri River, at Omaha, so far west as Fort D. A. Russell. Settlements are rapidly replacing them, and you may now see ranches with cattle and with little adobe houses strung along as far out as the Lodge-pole Valley, probably four hundred and fifty miles from Omaha. Beyond that the country is poor, and I am not aware of any settlements, except at one place, where they get a little timber, near Sidney Barracks.

The Tenth Infantry is in Texas, on the same line of posts which I described yesterday as occupied by the Ninth and Tenth Cavalry. We keep a small garrison of infantry at each post, as a point of security, leaving the cavalry free at short notice to go and take the field. It is found as the result of the experience of the last twenty-five years that the best garrison in those regions consists of a couple of companies of infantry and a couple companies of cavalry. Such a garrison is equal to the defence of a frontier of about one hundred miles. Therefore, wherever there is a company of the Ninth or Tenth Cavalry there is also a company of infantry occupying the same post. Thus the Tenth Infantry is stationed at Forts McKavitt, Stockton, Austin, and Fort Clark, identically the same points that are occupied by the Ninth Cavalry.

The Eleventh Infantry, it so happens, prolongs that line to the northward, and is coincident with the posts of the Tenth Cavalry, viz., Concho, Griffin, Richardson, and Red River Crossing. These two regiments occupy the northwestern part of Texas, and in co-operation with the Ninth and Tenth Cavalry protect that whole country.

The Twelfth Infantry is on the Pacific. There the Indians have all, I think, being collected on scattered reservations, every little tribe or family occupying a small reservation. But I rather think that the troops there usually protect the Indians against their white neighbors. This regiment occupies Camp Wright, San Diego, Fort Hall, Camp Independence, Camp Halleck, and Camp Mohave, six or seven distinct posts. The regiment numbers five hundred and forty-two men. It

is strung all the way through California, Nevada, and Arizona, by the exigencies of the service. Whenever we try to remove one of those companies the attempt is instantly followed by a petition and clamor, and the President, as a matter of habit, says, "O, you had better leave them alone." We try frequently to get our regiments together, into better shape, for the sake of discipline and of economy, too, because a regiment that is united costs at least 30 per cent. less than it does when scattered. The usual aim of the military authorities is to get a regiment grouped together as far as possible, for the sake of economy and in the interest of discipline, and also to increase the social comfort of the officers and men.

The Thirteenth Infantry is in Utah; Camp Douglas and Brown and Fort Fred Steele, on the railroad. These are the three principal points. The strength of that regiment is five hundred and ninety-two. That is my old regiment. The necessity of a regiment in Utah has been demonstrated, I think, to the satisfaction of all thinking men. There is a natural antagonism between the Mormons and their neighbors. There is a United States court there, which is constantly calling upon the commanding officer for assistance in the way of serving its writs and in enforcing its mandates. I have no doubt, that the presence of that regiment there has kept the peace, where otherwise we might have been dishonored by riots, murders, and collisions that would have been disgraceful to our civilization.

The Fourteenth Infantry occupies a kind of gorge in the Rocky Mountains, which you remember in early life as "Fremont's Pass." It is the great road through which the northern Indians pass on their way to the Elk country to hunt game. The regiment is stationed at Forts Laramie, Fetterman, Sanders, and Sidney Barracks, on the Union Pacific Railroad, in the valley of the Lodge-Pole. Fort Laramie was established as early as 1848, immediately after the Mexican war, and has been kept up ever since. Indeed, it was a fur company's post before that. At this moment there are probably more hostile Indians within striking distance of Fort Laramie than at any other point in the United States, such as Red Cloud, Bull Bear, The-man-afraid-of-his-horses, and all that gang of fellows. Fetterman is a post established about eighty miles west of Laramie, on that same old emigrant road. It was established by General Augur about five years ago, and has had a first-rate effect. The gorge there is a little narrower. There are two companies at Fetterman, and a company of cavalry. It is like a door which the Indians are troubled, not so much to pass in going, but to pass in returning with their stolen stock. Therefore, that deters them from trying to steal horses and cattle from the grazers, who are now really doing a fair business on the Laramie Plains. Without Fort Fetterman, I doubt very much whether a horse or a beef could be kept in that section of the country for thirty days.

The Fifteenth Infantry is in New Mexico, strung along the whole valley of the Upper Rio Grande, for nearly eight hundred miles, with detachments at Forts Garland, Union, Bayard, Craig, Wingate, Stanton, and Tularosa. The regiment is too much dispersed, but still we cannot help it.

The Sixteenth Infantry is one of the few regiments that are in the South. Its headquarters are at Nashville, Tenn., with detachments at Lebanon, Ky.; Jackson, Miss.; Little Rock, Ark.; Humboldt, Tenn.; Lancaster and Frankfort, Ky. The regiment has been there, with changed localities, substantially since the close of the war. It has been shifted about, the companies occupying various positions according to the requirements of marshals and revenue agents.

Mr. Hawley, of Connecticut—Is it not desirable to shift these men once in a while?

General Sherman—We ought to shift them as a whole, but we cannot afford it. I have tried it three or four times, but every time we attempt to change a regiment, in the spirit of fairness, we meet with opposition from the Quartermaster-General, saying that he has not the necessary money.

Mr. Hawley, of Connecticut—The men ought to be shifted to a more rigorous climate.

General Sherman—Of course it ought to be done in the interest of humanity; not with that regiment so much, because its location is generally healthy, but with another regiment that has been in Louisiana for the same length of time. I mean the Nineteenth regiment.

The Seventeenth Infantry is in Northern Minnesota and Dakota. It has two companies at Wadsworth, where there is a large reservation of Indians, and I think that by the treaty we are bound to keep a garrison there. It has only two companies. The headquarters are at Fort Abercrombie, in Dakota. Abercrombie is on the Pacific Railroad, where the road crosses the Red River of the North. The necessity for keeping a garrison there will probably cease after next year, because that valley is filling up with a good population, who are buying land and planting wheat. Abercrombie is an old place, that was built long before our civil war, and we have had no serious expense of late for it. Then there is another company at Grand River agency, below Fort Rice, which, too, is just below where the railroad bridge is to be built across the Missouri at Bismarck. Fort Abe Lincoln is on the west bank of the river, and the town of Bismarck on the east bank. The railroad is now finished from Lake Superior to Bismarck, viz., the Northern Pacific Railroad, and this Seventeenth Infantry occupies substantially the line of that road through Minnesota to Dakota.

Mr. Gunckel—Suppose that that work should not be prosecuted any further, could you then dispense with the troops in that section?

General Sherman—I doubt it very much, because there is a region of three hundred miles from Fort Abercrombie west that will be traversed by hunting parties of wild Indians.

The Eighteenth Infantry is in South Carolina. I have been very anxious to get that regiment out, but every time we attempt to move it influence of some

kind or other is brought to bear to prevent its being moved. They say the regiment is necessary there. Its headquarters are at Columbia, S. C., with some companies at Yorkville and Newberry, S. C., and at Atlanta, Ga.

The Nineteenth Infantry has gone through the yellow fever three times. It occupies Louisiana proper, with headquarters at Baton Rouge, and with a couple of companies at Jackson Barracks, Louisiana, just below the city of New Orleans; and one at Greenwood, where there was a hospital; and one at Colfax or Alexandria. That regiment has been thereabout since the war. It has had a good deal to do. It has been hauled about all around that country. There have been excitements in the city of New Orleans, when these men were compelled to stand to arms in the streets for days at a time. I mean during the election excitements growing out of the governorships and senatorships. Thus far I claim that the troops there have behaved with admirable discretion. They have never shot a man, but I have no doubt that they have prevented many riots. The commander of the regiment, Colonel C. H. Smith, is a fine officer, and General Emory also has given his personal attention to these matters. The regiment has prevented riots there, and that prevention, I think, has been of great importance to the country at large and to our reputation as a civilized people, for every riot in a city like New Orleans is a disgrace to the whole American people.

The Twentieth Infantry is still farther north of the Northern Pacific Railroad, looking to the northern boundary and guarding our relations with the Manitoba country. It is a peaceful neighborhood, and the regiment was sent there originally to purge it of yellow fever, which it had imbibed on the Gulf. It is a small regiment, of five hundred and forty-nine men. Its headquarters are at Fort Snelling, Minn., with detachments at Fort Seward, Dak.; Fort Ripley, Minn.; Forts Pembina and Totten, Dak. (Fort Totten is on Devil's Lake.) Fort Pembina and the other companies make connection with the Northern Pacific Railroad. Fort Snelling, I think, has been a military post since 1816 or 1818, at a time when it took six months to get there from the East. Now there are two beautiful cities right around it, and we have only a small nucleus of a garrison there. Most of the men in this regiment are at Forts Totten and Pembina, looking to the Canadian frontier.

The Twenty-first Infantry is in Oregon, or rather mostly in Washington Territory, in what we call the "Department of the Columbia," embracing Washington Territory, Idaho, and Oregon. The posts are Fort Klamath, Oreg.; Camp Harney, Oreg.; Fort Walla-Walla, Wash.; Fort Vancouver, Wash.; Camp Warner, Oreg.; Fort Colville, Wash.; Lapwai, Idaho; San Juan Island, Wash.; and Fort Boise, Idaho.

The Twenty-second Infantry is on the Missouri River. We are trying to get the Sioux into that district west of the Missouri River, and therefore that part of the country is guarded pretty strongly. There are two regiments there. The one commanded by General Stanley, the Twenty-second, occupies Fort Sully, Fort Randall, and the lower Brule agency, all in Dakota Territory. That regiment has been there ever since the close of the war. Some of its officers have hardly seen a white face, except their own garrison, for six or seven years. The regiment has been there seven years, and I have promised them myself several times to bring them out where they can have a school-house and church, but I have not been able to fulfil my promise thus far.

The Twenty-third Infantry is the last of the white regiments in this list. It is now in Arizona. It occupies the posts, while the cavalry is on the go all the time. That is an immense, miserable country full of Apache Indians, and there has been a chronic war there since period long before we were a nation and probably it will continue so until there is not an Indian left. We have got these Indians somewhat pacified now. The Twenty-third Infantry occupies Fort Whipple, Camp Verde, McDowell, Lowell, Bowie, Grant, Apache, and Fort Yuma. There is generally but a single company at each point, simply to make a depot of ammunition and supplies, where the cavalry can, after swinging around, go in for refreshment and cartridges.

The Twenty-fourth regiment is a colored regiment. We have two colored regiments of infantry, the same number as we have of cavalry. This one has been in Texas ever since the close of the civil war, on the theory that that race can better stand that extreme southern climate than our white troops. They are stationed along the Lower Rio Grande. The headquarters are at Fort Duncan, with companies at Ringgold, Forts Brown and Mackintosh.

The Twenty-fifth and last regiment of infantry is also colored, and takes up that line of frontier and goes up the Rio Grande to New Mexico, guarding also the stage road. Its headquarters are at Fort Davis, with companies at Forts Duncan, Whitman, Stockton, and Fort Sill, in the Indian Territory. I suppose this company must have got up there escorting some Indians and has not got back yet.

That completes the entire regular organisation of the regiments of the Army of the United States, as it now stands.

*The Royal Alfred*, 18 guns, screw, armor plated ship Captain H. F. Nicholson, which has arrived in England, and been paid off at Portsmouth dockyard, is reported to have been found in the highest state of efficiency, on Admiral Sir Rodney Mundy, the port admiral, inspecting her preparatory to being put out of commission. Vice-Admiral E. G. Fanshawe, the late commander and chief of the North American and West Indian Station, whose dag was hoisted on board the *Royal Alfred*, struck his flag, and proceeded to the Admiralty immediately on the vessel's arrival to report himself.

W. O. LINTHICUM, 174 FIFTH AVENUE, NEW YORK, MERCHANT TAILOR AND REPORTER OF FASHIONS.

*From the Army and Navy Journal of Jan. 31, 1874.*

An enthusiasm for one's business or profession is not only admirable in itself, but is the chief element of success, and it has given Mr. W. O. Linthicum, of 174 Fifth Avenue, New York, the distinction among tailors which secured for him the patronage of the Duke Alexis, as chief among his class. There is no college of tailors that we know of; if there were one Mr. Linthicum would, we doubt not, be chosen by acclamation to the presidency, or the chief professorship; for he is not only a good tailor himself, but is the cause of good tailoring in others, being the author of original systems for cutting published in book form, the editor of "Linthicum's Journal of New York Fashions," and the publisher of a great variety of patterns for coats, pants, and vests, which are furnished cut to measure or otherwise at moderate price. Supplied with these officers at a distance from New York can make sure, wherever they are, of having their clothes made according to the most approved New York cut.

*Exposition Universelle de 1867 à Paris Le Jury International décerne une mention honorable à W. O. Linthicum (New York Etats-Unis) Agriculture et Industrie. Groupe IV. Class 35. Vétérans. Paris, le 1er Juillet 1867. Le Conseiller d'Etat, Commissaire Général. F. Le Hay, Le Ministre Vice President de la Commission Impériale de l'Exposition.*

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## U. S. ARMY AND NAVY JOURNAL.

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## REVISION OF THE STATUTES.

In a late number we pointed out where the commissioners for revising the United States Statutes, had, in their report, originated new legislation, by reviving, in objectionable form, an Article of War which had been specially repealed. Further examination shows other errors in their work. Thus the 45th Article of War, as originally enacted by Congress, provided that any soldier found drunk on his guard, party, or other duty, should suffer such corporal punishment (except flogging), as a court-martial should direct. The commissioners continue this article as Article 88 of the revision, although Congress, on June 8, 1873, section 2, chapter 316, enacted that, "Hereafter it shall be illegal to brand, mark, or tattoo on the body of any soldier by sentence of a court-martial, and the word 'corporal' shall be stricken out of the 45th of the rules and articles for the government of the Armies of the United States."

The object of striking out the word "corporal" was to enable a court to sentence to forfeiture of pay, in its discretion, and thereby not lose the prisoner's services from duty by reason of a mandatory sentence to confinement with, or without, hard labor as a "corporal" punishment. As showing that like causes produce like effects, it is a curious fact that in 1871 the British Parliament, in the annual Mutiny Act, prescribed that it should hereafter be illegal to brand or mark the body of a soldier by sentence of a court-martial, and we happen to know that the similar pro-

vision, above rec'd, was introduced and passed by Congress without knowledge that this reform had just been introduced into the kindred service.

On the subject of the emoluments of brevet rank, when an officer has been specially assigned to duty by the President, the commissioners say (section 172, p. 46,) "Brevets conferred upon commissioned officers shall not entitle them to any increase of pay," but the Act of March 3d, 1869, chapter 124, section 7, declares, "that such assignment shall not entitle any officer to additional pay or allowances."

The commissioners, in their revision, appear to have wholly omitted the 96th of the existing Articles of War, which says that: "All officers, conductors, gunners, matroos, drivers, or other persons whatsoever, receiving pay or hire in the service of the artillery, or corps of engineers of the United States, shall be governed by the aforesaid Rules and Articles, and shall be subject to be tried by courts-martial, in like manner with the officers and soldiers of other troops in the service of the United States."

It may be that the commissioners deemed it obsolete, but we think they have come to that conclusion from insufficient information. The corps of engineers for instance, have in their employ, at many of the prominent sea-coast fortifications, garrisoned by regular troops, parties of civilian laborers to build additional works, or to repair and strengthen the old ones. These laborers are voluntarily receiving pay or hire in the service of the corps of engineers, and are necessarily at these posts. They can, however, formally, terminate their engagements when desired. Cases will recur to the mind of any commanding officer, where, if such persons were not amenable to trial by courts-martial, Government would suffer, as it would be quite impracticable to bring such persons to trial by indictment in a United States Circuit Court for offences of a military nature committed at military posts—such as releasing an enlisted prisoner, charged with a military crime, from the custody of the sergeant of the guard, or secretly rendering unserviceable the valuable ordnance at the post, or needlessly damaging the implements and tools furnished for his use. On the whole, we think, the article had better be left in the military code than taken out, even if not often had recourse to. If it could only be extended so as to include the large number of civilian clerks and employees in the Quartermaster's, Subsistence, Pay, and Engineer Departments, either at military stations or depots on the several headquarters, whose pay—aggregating a very large sum—is credited exclusively to the annual appropriation for the support of the Army proper, but whose interests are not entirely in sympathy with the rank and file, we should feel that something was done towards greater homogeneity and effectiveness.

WHAT General Sherman has to say on Army subjects is said so clearly and forcibly, that it is sure to attract attention, and his argument against the reduction of the Army, and especially of the artillery, cavalry, and infantry, while it fixed the attention of the committee to which it was addressed, is sure to prove far more interesting to those upon whose behalf it was presented. For this reason we publish it substantially complete in this number of the JOURNAL. It is certain to be read, every word of it, by Army officers everywhere, and will prove of value not to them alone, but to all who have any interest in our military establishment.

General Sherman was again before the House Military Committee, February 1, in relation to the Army as connected with Indian affairs. He gave a graphic account of his interview with the famous Kiowa chief Satanta, at Fort Sill, when he had Satanta, Santa and Big Tree arrested, doubled ironed and sent back to Texas. The influence of the humanitarians—who regarded murder on the part of the Indians as a mere exhibition of moral insanity—had induced Governor Davis, of Texas, who ought to have known better, to commute the sentence of Satanta and Big Tree, and the same influences at Washington had finally restored them to freedom, and they are now on the reservation, ready to start out on more murderous raids. If they should scalp Governor Davis the next time General Sherman intimated that he would not shed many tears on that account. He reviewed the Modoc difficulties and gave it as his opinion that General Canby had been a victim of the temporizing Quaker policy applied to the Indians. He favored the transfer of the Indians from the control of the Interior Department to that of the War Department, and expressed his conviction that the Army was more kindly disposed to the Indians than the citizens generally were, and that if the country demanded extremely charitable treatment of

the Indians it could be accomplished by and through the agency of the Army better than through that of those persons who professed more charity than soldiers, but who did not practise it so much.

THE pressure of congressional matter on our columns this week, prevents us giving to the letters of Major ABBOT and Captain JEFFERS, on harbor defence, the careful consideration their own suggestions and the great importance of the subject deserve. We are glad to have been the means of drawing out expressions of opinion of such value from officers so competent as these representatives of the two services, and next week shall give them the examination they are so well entitled to. Meanwhile the two letters furnish their own comment on what we said last week as to the relations of the two services to each other, in the matter of defending our harbors with torpedoes. We fear that Major ABBOT has something yet to learn in regard to the "depravity of inanimate things" if he expects a complicated system of dormant torpedoes in the emergency of a naval attack to yield that ready obedience to his will which is essential to the perfection of the system he advocates.

THE Army Appropriation Bill was discussed in the Committee of the Whole in the House, on the 28th and 29th ult., without any resolution thereon. Mr. Wheeler, who has charge of the bill, reported that the committee in the preparation of it fully appreciated the responsibility devolving on them to meet "the demands of the country for just, wise, and economic expenditure. The act of last year, corresponding with this, appropriated \$31,796,008. The original estimates for this bill were \$34,881,618. These under the request of the House, were reduced by the Secretary of War to \$32,708,716. The Committee on Appropriations have further reduced these by the sum of \$4,318,799, so that the bill calls for \$28,449,916, which we hope to reduce somewhat by amendments." The Army had now attained its maximum of enlisted men under the act of July 15, 1870—thirty thousand. The committee had considered the question whether the force could not be safely reduced, not by a discharge of men, but by permitting a portion of the natural depletion by expiration of service, death, desertion, and other causes during the next fiscal year to go unsupplied, or, in other words, to check the enlistments for that period. An approximate estimate of such depletion is shown by the War Office to be in round numbers 10,000 men. The bill is formed on the hypothesis that only one-half of this diminution shall be supplied, and, if it shall be sustained by the House, a saving of several million of dollars will be effected over the revised estimates of the Secretary of War.

No hazard is run in the diminution of the Army. Any emergency of magnitude would convene Congress, which would be in session before four months of the next fiscal year would elapse, and could take such action as experience suggested.

The committee propose a provision in the bill to carry to the surplus fund certain balances of appropriations for the Quartermaster and Commissary Departments accruing prior to July 1, 1870, and up to July 1, 1872, some \$6,000,000, and thus remove a temptation to all manner of claims, and placers, which predatory claim agents and greedy cormorants work too often and too successfully. Also another, to carry all claims against these departments of the Army, growing out of the war, to the Commissioners of Claims, giving them exclusive jurisdiction. These claims now filed amount to over \$8,000,000. The subject of transfer was discussed for a while, several members taking part, and Mr. Wheeler deferred further remarks until the bill should be considered item by item.

Mr. Garfield, in his remarks on the bill, said the Committee on Appropriations believe that just two things can be done, and ought to be done, in the matter of reducing expenses. First, if there be any appropriations that can be wholly dispensed with, if there be any extravagances that can be lopped off altogether, dispense with them; lop them off. Second, if there be any expenditures that can wholly or in part be postponed for a year or two, until the pinch is over and the revenues recover their strength, postpone them, and thus aid in tiding us over the difficulties of the present situation. The Committee on Appropriations propose to go this far and no farther in the way of retrenchment. They do not propose in any case to cut into the vital life of the government, or to cripple its necessary functions.

Mr. Beck announced his intention of moving a *proviso* to the bill, when opportunity should offer, which Mr. Wheeler said the committee would cheerfully accept, as follows:

"That only actual travelling expenses shall be allowed to any person whatever in the service of the United States; and all allowances for mileage or transportation in excess of the amount actually paid, are hereby declared illegal; and no credit shall be allowed to any disbursing officers of the United States, for payment or allowances in violation of this provision."

He also asked whether it was proper to maintain to-day, the increase of over a million and a half dollars made three years ago in the pay of the Army, and

whether the pay of the general officers could not be brought down to something less than four times the pay of a member of the Senate or the House. Retrenchments could be made in reduction of the Army and reduction of pay, as well as in the reduction of mileage and transportation, when officers are paid ten cents a mile travelling with free tickets in their pockets, and the whole appropriation is lumped together to prevent the House knowing how it is. The appropriations for mileage, for pay, for transportation, etc., should be separate, and not lumped into one sum of eleven and a half millions.

Mr. Coburn addressed the House on the 29th ult., when the consideration of the bill was resumed—a continuation of his speech the day previous, which was withheld for revision. The proposition was not one coming from the Military Committee to reduce the army, or in any form a measure to provide for a systematic reduction, but merely to stop recruiting; and in that view he concurred with the suggestions made by the gentleman from New York (Mr. Wheeler). He would support a reasonable reduction in the appropriations, with a view of cutting off, in part, the work of recruiting, and hoped the Committee on Military Affairs would in a few days present a substantial scheme of reduction. He saw no objection to any part of the bill so far as appropriations were concerned. The Army might be reduced not only in men, but in officers; not only in officers, but the expenditures of the military establishment may be reduced largely in public works and in munitions of war.

Mr. Coburn, at considerable length, discussed these points—reviewing the Indian question, the fortifications along the coast, the arsenals, the condition of the South, the several military departments—and giving his ideas of the force that should be maintained in connection with each of these branches or departments of the Army. He would strip our lakes, and strip our sea-shore, and strip the South of soldiers almost entirely, and what army he retained in service he would keep on the Indian frontier, where it is needed almost entirely. All that is now necessary is to stop recruiting, which would accomplish the necessary reduction. On this point he said :

"There is a reduction going on in the Army all the time. We need not act positively by discharges, by mustering out, by breaking up organizations, or in any other way for that matter; for a great reduction is going on from natural causes. According to the evidence of the Adjutant-General of the Army, his statement as to the reduction of the Army, which I hold in my hand, is astonishing. It was so to me, as it was to other members of the committee. During the last year more than half the Army has gone out of service. There have died 491 men, there have been discharged by expiration of service 4,187 men, for disability 1,113 men, for other causes 2,381 men, deserted 7,513 men, making an aggregate of almost 16,000 men. The yearly average of casualties of Army officers is 82. So, without the passage of the law, a stopping of recruiting would diminish the Army more than one-half. Therefore, if the House decides to reduce the Army, no officer, no man in the service, need be alarmed lest he is going to be put out and lose his position, as a great many officers apprehend they would, and thus be obliged to go out and make a living in the ordinary way at a time of life when they are totally unfit to do it. Eighty-three constitute officers enough for several regiments. There can be, therefore, no trouble and no apprehension on the part of Army officers."

The debate was continued by Mr. Scudder of New Jersey, Mr. Whitthorne of Tenn., Mr. McCormick of Arizona, Mr. Hawley of Connecticut, Mr. Nesmith of Oregon, and others. It is impossible for us to make room this week for even an abstract of their remarks. On Tuesday the debate was renewed. Mr. Wheeler wanted the House to be consistent in the matter of economy, and as for the alleged danger from the reduction of the Army, he would send to the front many idle soldiers in the East if more troops were needed on the frontier. He made a very considerable sensation when he declared that he could explain where many of the "missing ramrods" were. He said they would be found by going to private houses of Army officers and taking out enlisted men who were there as servants, and sending them to the front. Here Mr. Ward, of Chicago, asked what Government officers had enlisted men in their service, when Mr. Wheeler replied that the same sources of information were open to him. Mr. Wheeler did not think there was any necessity for 500 soldiers in Utah, as the railroad would furnish the necessary means of approach in case of Mormon troubles. He thought a thousand men in New York were needless, and he knew that mousing about fortifications did not make recruits good soldiers. Mr. Garfield believed that there was no necessity for fifteen companies in New York City, or for four companies in Connecticut, or for 2,000 men to guard the Canadian border in New England and New York, while there was not a "red coat" to watch us on all the line from the mouth of the St. Lawrence to Pembina. The representatives from the Border States earnestly opposed any reduction of the Army, while Mr. Shanks, of the Indian Committee, declared that there was no truth in the rumors of Indian hostilities. The House proceeded so far in Committee of the Whole as to adopt an amendment providing that there shall be no appropriation for more than 25,000 men. Mr. Hawley, of Connecticut, like many others in both Houses, thinks it would be better that the Appropriation Committee should look over the whole subject of appropriations and find out definitely what reduction ought to be made in gross, and where it could be best made, before beginning to cut away at the Army or any other branch of the Government. The House would then be able to judge of the merits of the propositions by comparison, rather than absolutely. Then if the reduction of the Army proved to be necessary there would be little opposition to it.

On Wednesday, the debate turned upon two amendments; one relating to the mileage system; the second to the control of the Government over the land-grant railroads. The amendment concerning mileage, which was adopted after much debate, provides that the system of mileage shall be abolished in all departments of the Government service; that hereafter only actual travelling expenses shall be paid, and that no allowances for these expenses shall be made for a greater amount than ten cents per mile.

## CORRESPONDENCE.

The Editor of the *ARMY AND NAVY JOURNAL* does not hold himself responsible for individual expressions of opinion in communications published under this head. His purpose is to allow the largest freedom of discussion consistent with propriety and good feeling.

### TORPEDOES FOR HARBOR DEFENCE.

To the *Editor of the Army and Navy Journal*.

SIR: A typographical error in my letter, which appeared in your last issue, quite changed the meaning of one sentence: the word *hence* in the third line from the end of the first paragraph was printed *never*.

The remarks in your editorial show that a little more elaborate explanation of our system of submarine mines is desirable; although, for obvious reasons, no full discussion of it, and especially of the means devised to protect it against hostile operations, is expedient. In inception and in our modern details, this method of obstructing a channel is American, not European as you suppose. Although, if desirable, trigonometrical observations may be employed in firing the mines, no necessity exists therefor. Let us say there are a couple of hundred submerged torpedoes planted quincuncially, in several lines across the channel, so as to preclude the possibility of a vessel passing without coming in contact with some of them. If a friend wishes to cross, they are inert and absolutely harmless buoys; but at the approach of an enemy a single movement of the operator in his distant casemate instantly gives life to all of them; and a slight graze against any one will send the ship to the bottom as suddenly as the *Tecumseh* went down in front of Fort Morgan. Moreover, these are quite intelligent "pots," for they report at once if anything is wrong, the defective one stating his exact locality, and even explaining whether the difficulty is caused by a leak or consists of an injury to his electric cable.

Such a system, when covered by the close fire of forts and earthen batteries, most effectively obstructs the channel—which, as you say, is vitally essential to a proper defence. There is no instance in history of a fleet running such a gauntlet; and, moreover, we have the high authority of Admiral Porter for believing that it cannot be done. Nevertheless, floating obstructions have not been neglected. Shortly after the war a system was devised, constructed, planted in the Potomac, and an invitation extended to the Navy to co-operate in testing its efficiency.

You quite misunderstood my short letter as intended to set forth our "plan in whole" for harbor defence. Mortar fire has, since the war, received careful study from our artillery and ordnance officers; and so great improvements have been made that it has become a very powerful auxiliary in defending an obstructed channel—and batteries adapted to the new service have been built at some of our more important works. Experiments have also been made in the use of the electric light, and in a combination of triangulation and telegraphy for improving the precision of artillery-fire. Neither has the use of the class of fish torpedoes, which can be controlled and directed from the shore, been ignored, either theoretically or practically. In case of war, it will doubtless be called upon to play the part for which it is suited in Army hands. Being more particularly adapted for conflicts between ships, it has naturally received more attention at Newport than at Willet's Point—but it has not been ignored at the latter place.

As to any jealousy between the Army and Navy in relation to harbor defence, I think you are mistaken in believing it to exist—at least among officers high enough in rank to understand the subject in its full bearings. I will give you one out of many expressions of opinion which might be quoted from the writings of distinguished naval officers. Admiral Dupont says: "I beg leave to express an emphatic dissent from all theories having for their object the substitution of active ships of war for permanent works. This would be placing the Navy in a false position before the country; giving it duties to perform for which its organization is inappropriate; preparing for its future discredit and loss, through failures to execute that which should never have been undertaken, which is not embraced in the general scope and design of a naval establishment. To retain the Navy for harbor defence was entertained at the commencement of the last war with England; the proposition to do so sprung from the apprehension that it could not compete with the vastly superior English forces upon the ocean. But at that time some brave and sagacious officers in the high ranks saved the Navy from the fate that threatened it, and to these gentlemen it owes all its subsequent honors, usefulness, and prosperity. If any such ideas prevail at this day in or out of the profession, those holding them would do well to pause and consider what the Navy would have lost, and what the country would have lost, if our ships of war had at that eventful period been deprived of the opportunity of filling so bright a page in the nation's history by their achievements upon the ocean." Every word in this quotation is as true to-day as when it was written. Did our monitors recently rendezvous at Key West for harbor defence? Our naval authorities are far too sagacious to condemn them exclusively to such uses—for which, be it remembered, they were never built.

But, Mr. Editor, you write as if the Army and Navy were left to settle between them how they will divide this subject of the use of torpedoes in harbor defence. If we are the right and left arm of the nation we are not its brain; and Congress has already answered your question, by giving to the Army "the establishment and maintenance of torpedoes to be operated from shore stations for the destruction of an enemy's vessel approaching the shore or entering the channel and fairways of harbors." This legislation was passed after sending for and personally examining through its appropriate committees, the detailed apparatus for serving the Army torpedoes.

No, Mr. Editor, the two services may safely be trusted to aid each other on all possible occasions. If we of the Army are anxiously holding our line against a powerful enemy endeavoring to enter New York Harbor, we see a few monitors and skilfully commanded picket and torpedo-boats approaching to cooperate, you may be sure they will receive a hearty welcome; and if one of our ships of war is chased, nay disabled, from the ocean, by a superior force, she will not be sorry to have us open the door for her, and then shut it in the face of the enemy. These matters of mutual assistance settle themselves in war, among brave men fighting under the same flag.

HENRY L. ABBOT, Major of Engineers,  
Commanding Torpedo School.  
WILLET'S POINT, N. Y. H., Feb. 4, 1874.

### HARBOR DEFENCE.

To the *Editor of the Army and Navy Journal*.

SIR: General Abbot's letter in your last issue, with your editorial comments, raises a fruitful subject for argument, which may degenerate into controversy.

It is the general opinion of the Navy—certainly that of the writer—that no open harbor (New York, for example,) can keep out a moderately well appointed fleet (say that now at Key West) unless obstructed; and that dormant torpedoes, as aids to guns on shore, do not offer a sufficient obstruction, that rivers (Potomac) can be effectually closed by these means.

As General Abbot truly observes, the sphere of the Navy is essentially offensive, and it would certainly be very unwise to retain our cruising ships in harbors for their defence.

The monitors were, however, constructed for the express purpose of bringing the enemy under the very muzzles of their guns, where forts are not so placed as to effectively command channels at short range; and, under the new system, also to cover obstructions and to serve as shifting bases from which movable torpedoes may be launched with precision at a foe who keeps out of range of the shore batteries, or enters the channel to cover the parties removing the obstructions.

The history of sieges shows that the presence of subterranean mines does not deter assaults, even when not rendered harmless; nor will submarine mines keep ships out of harbors.

The Navy does, therefore, "expect to take a hand in the defence of our harbors," such as Boston, Newport, New York, and the Delaware and Chesapeake Bays.

In this there need be no collision or conflict of authority.

Nevertheless, the relative fields of the Army and Navy should be clearly defined, not by controversy in the public journals, but after due discussion by the proper authorities, that harmonious action may be insured, and duplication of means avoided.

WILLIAM N. JEFFERS, Captain U. S. Navy.

### ENGLISH AND AMERICAN CAVALRY.

To the *Editor of the Army and Navy Journal*.

SIR: Some time ago I published at the house of Harper & Brothers, in New York city, a book called the "History of the United States Cavalry," which contains passages which appear to have given pain to some of our English cousins, and latterly to a spirited correspondence which has been carried on in the columns of the *New York Herald*. I stated in my history that the style of riding in use in the British army was faulty, and in consequence thereof, the cavalry was almost universally whipped when it went into battle.

Colonel Denison, of the British service, published a work called "Modern Cavalry," in London, in which he complained of my view of the subject as doing injustice to the English horsemen. In support of what I said I adduced the evidence of Lieutenant-General Sir Charles James Napier, and Captain Nolan, but all to no purpose, as this evidence was galling to the national pride of Great Britain. Since that time I have fortified myself with the testimony of Lord Wellington, Sir Henry Havelock (son of the Hero of Lucknow), and of Lieutenant-Colonel Denison, in addition to what I had already said in regard to the inefficiency of the British cavalry, but without effect, as non-professional British readers and writers are unwilling to acknowledge that their system is anything short of perfection itself. General Napier says: "A British cavalry regiment is a beautiful sight on parade. Give it six months hard work, and while the horses fall off the men fail. The vanity of dress supersedes efficiency."

I had supposed, and still suppose, General Napier knew something about the subject he had in hand, and his views are far more convincing to me than the views of a hundred non-military writers.

Some sapient individuals have put forward the claim that because a few English gentlemen are good riders after foxes, and at steeple chases, the mass of the nation were necessarily good riders. This I deny in toto. The English cannot compare with Americans in a knowledge of horsemanship, and it ought not to be expected. There the majority of people look upon a horse as a savage beast, whereas in western America almost every one is trained to riding from boyhood up.

The claim that the English are, as a nation, as good riders as the Americans, is simply absurd, and Sir Henry Havelock says their cavalry is inferior in every respect to ours.

The exploits of Fremont's cavalry battalion in California during the Mexican war have never been equalled, so far as marching is concerned. This battalion was made up of Americans mostly—men who had been reared on the Western Plains, and who have no equals in a knowledge of horsemanship, if we except the Mexicans and the wild Indian tribes of interior America.

The English have so long had the field as fine riders, that it will be somewhat difficult for them to surrender

the claim that they have the best cavalry in existence; but they may as well give it up first as last; they are by no means a nation of good riders, and both the Americans and Mexicans excel them in every respect, except perhaps the habit of "bumping" up and down in their saddles, which belongs peculiarly and happily to the Britons alone.

I am sir, yours, very respectfully,

ALBERT G. BRACKETT,  
Lieut.-Colonel Second Cavalry.  
125 CLARK STREET, CHICAGO, Jan. 29, 1874.

### THE HAMMOCK AS A LIFE-PRESERVER.

To the *Editor of the Army and Navy Journal*.

SIR: In your journal of December 27, 1873, in a notice of a pamphlet by Mr. R. B. Forbes, on "The Hammock as a Life-Preserver," I find that that gentleman takes as his text a report of mine, of some experiments made as to the powers of flotation of a lashed-up hammock at Malta. Will you allow me to say that the experiments were made at the request of Vice-Admiral Ryder, who has for some time past been endeavoring to get a cork-filled mattress brought into use amongst seamen? The Admiral has lectured on the subject at the Royal United Service Institution, and has published some papers upon it in addition. Mr. Forbes' views, from your account of them, appear to be founded upon those of Admiral Ryder, whose name deserves to be known for his praiseworthy and humane efforts in the cause of saving life at sea.

I am, sir, your obedient servant,

CYPRIAN A. G. BRIDGE, Commander, R. N.  
H. M. S. IMPLACABLE, DEVONPORT, Jan. 10, 1874.

### MILITARY ORGANIZATION OF SWITZERLAND.

LIEUTENANT-COMMANDER S. D. AMES, of the U. S. Navy, attached to the frigate *Wabash*, has translated from the French, Colonel de Mandrot's "Résumé of the Swiss Military Organization." Colonel de Mandrot is a colonel in the Federal Army of Switzerland, and his work, published in 1871, is full of interest to the military reader. Lieutenant-Commander Ames recently visited Switzerland, under leave of absence, and, in the spirit of Rear-Admiral Case's General Order No. 2, presented on his return this translation, considering the subject one of much interest.

The resume is too full and lengthy to admit of entire publication in the JOURNAL, and we can publish only such parts of it as may seem to possess the greater interest, and, in doing so, will not follow the translation literally.

The author, in his preface, says: "The military organization of Switzerland is neither well known nor properly appreciated. Many people see in our militia nothing but a national guard or citizen soldiery, which they conceive costs nothing to the State and very little to individuals. Strangers to the military profession above all, have a low idea of the militia, though, as a rule, they see nothing of it. The visits of foreign officers (mostly Germans) have latterly modified this opinion, but the majority of the military public keep to their old prejudices. . . . Our Swiss militia is a peculiar institution, and I cannot better define it than by calling it an army living at home. Its organization resembles somewhat the ancient Prussian Landwehr, and it may be that the founders of that great institution found their model in us." Composed of citizen soldiers, the Swiss army can never excite fear among our neighbors. By its very composition it will always be impossible for any power, however centralized, to make use of it for anything but a defensive war. . . . After having been too little studied, our militia system is now overrated. It is declared to be not only cheaper than any other system, but also entirely sufficient for the defence of any country."

The author says the public is in error on two important points; first, as to the cheapness claimed for it, and second, as to its being as thoroughly organized as the armies of neighboring nations. It is said for £6,000,000 yearly the Swiss have an army of 203,000 men ready for instant service against any regular army; on the contrary, it costs £13,000,000, including interest on a loan of £12,000,000, expenses of the cantons, personal expenses in clothing, equipment, etc.

As to the Swiss militia being entirely equal to the regular armies of other countries, it is an exaggeration. They have as much military spirit as any other people. Nowhere can a soldier be formed as promptly as in Switzerland, and this soldier, well commanded, can hold his own against the troops of neighboring nations. But is he always well commanded? are his general officers, superior officers, and subalterns equal to their positions? Every one in Switzerland knows this is the weak point of our army, and this inferiority cannot be overcome except by much more exercise, more assembling of the troops, and, in consequence, more expense. To do this, the budget must be increased to £14,500,000. This would not be dear if Switzerland could have 200,000 well organized troops; but, in fact, she has but 120,000 in a state to take the field. The author disclaims any attack upon the militia in general or upon Switzerland in particular.

Every Swiss is a soldier. Military service is obligatory from the age of 20 to 45, but various exemptions are allowed. The Federal army includes an *elite* and a reserve, the first about 3 per cent. of the population of each canton, the second 1 1/2 per cent. of this population.

The militia man can be kept in the *elite* until the age of 35; usually he passes into the reserve at 28 or 30, where he can be kept until he is 41, and after this he belongs to the *landwehr*. The Cantons must always

\* As the Prussian system is as old as the time of David, King of Israel, this is hardly likely. [Ed. JOURNAL.]

have their contingent (*elite* and *reserve*), complete. In case of a grand arming, the Confederation may take charge. As each Canton owes to the Confederation a contingent of men and materials, it also owes a proportionate money contingent to the general government, (seldom required), which is calculated from the population and wealth and the occupation followed by its inhabitants, and the scale is revised every 20 years. By adding the *elite* to the *reserve* and *landwehr*, one-twelfth of the Swiss population is organized, armed, and equipped.

## SUPERIOR AUTHORITIES.—ADMINISTRATION.

The Federal Assembly is the highest military authority. It decrees the military laws and rules, elects the commander-in-chief of the army and his chief of staff, orders the number of troops to be called out, and decides when to disband them. In time of peace, the Federal Council, (Central Executive Authority), commands the whole army through the War Department whose chief has to be a member of the Federal Council. The Federal staff consists of the following officers:

1. Commissioner for the personnel of the army, who is at the same time Chief Instructor of the Infantry, and who is a Federal colonel.
2. Administrator of material of war, who is a colonel of Federal artillery.
3. Commissary in Chief.
4. Chief Auditor.
5. Surgeon General.
6. Inspector of Engineers.
7. Inspector of Artillery.
8. Inspector of Cavalry.
9. Inspector of Riflemen.
10. Inspectors of Infantry, each a Federal colonel.
11. Officers of the Staff, Bureau, and of the Topographic Office.

## IMMEDIATE COMMAND OF THE TROOPS AND STAFF.

The Federal colonels are the general officers of the army; they command the divisions and brigades, and form part of the general staff. This corps, which is at the head of the army, is divided into six sections:

1. The General Staff, consisting of at least forty colonels, thirty lieutenant-colonels, thirty majors, and a number of captains and lieutenants.

The Federal colonels are appointed to divisions and brigades without regard to seniority of commission, and are promoted from the grade of Federal lieutenant-colonels who have seen at least two years service in that grade.

From the Federal colonels the Chambers choose the commander-in-chief of the army and the chief of the general staff, without regard either to the arm or the seniority of the officer chosen.

The first, or commander-in-chief alone, has the title of "General." He bears it until his death, but the distinction is merely honorary, since at each new calling out of troops the Federal Chambers may appoint another general officer commander-in-chief. The commander-in-chief is given the title of "Excellency" in all official papers, in the same manner as the President of the Confederation himself.

He has the right to choose his private staff. Upon his nomination he exercises entire authority over the army, and is only responsible to the Federal Assembly.

The army once disbanded, the Federal Council again takes up the direction of affairs.

2. The Engineers Staff consists of at least two colonels, three lieutenant-colonels, four majors, and a certain number of captains, lieutenants, and sub-lieutenants.

3. The Artillery Staff consists of at least four colonels, ten lieutenant-colonels, fifteen majors, and a number of captains and lieutenants.

Each of these staffs has attached to it a number of clerks or secretaries, who have the rank of assistant non-commissioned staff officers.

The staff has its private advancement. In general, seniority is no rule, though it is taken into consideration. One cannot enter this corps without having served in some arm of the service as superior officer or subaltern. Once admitted into it, promotion in the corps cannot be obtained until the officer has served at least two years in the grade immediately below the one to which he seeks advancement.

4. The Judiciary Staff. An auditor in chief with the rank of colonel, and a number of judiciary officials.

5. Commissariat Staff. One chief commissary with the rank of colonel, and the necessary number of functionaries, ranking from first sub-lieutenant to lieutenant and colonel.

6. Sanitary Staff, consisting of one physician-in-chief, with grade of colonel; nine physicians or surgeons of divisions, three of whom rank with lieutenant-colonel, and the rest with majors; one staff surgeon and one apothecary of the staff, with rank of captain. Besides these there are a sufficient number of hospital and ambulance surgeons, who are divided into: 1. surgeons of first class, with rank of captain who may be employed as brigade surgeons or chiefs of ambulances; 2. surgeons of second class, with rank of lieutenant (all for ambulance service); 3. surgeons of third class, with rank of first lieutenant (all for ambulance service).

The personnel of the veterinary service consists of one veterinary surgeon-in-chief, with rank of lieutenant-colonel or major, and a sufficient number of veterinary surgeons of the staff, ranking with captain, lieutenant, and first sub-lieutenant.

## APPROXIMATE RECAPITULATION.

	Cols.	Lt.-Col. one.	Majors.	Caps.	Lieuts.	1st Sub- Lieuts.	2d Sub- Lieuts.	Total.
General Staff.....	58	45	55	53	11	5	225	
Engineer Staff.....	5	6	14	20	9	8	14	69
Artillery Staff.....	9	22	26	14	13	5	89	144
Judiciary Staff.....	1	5	5	30				34
Commissariat Staff.....	1	11	20	25	10	46		127
Sanitary Staff.....	1	6	10	81	22	73		193
Staff Secretaries or Clerks.....								76
	76	93	130	236	74	134	14	747
								73

## ARMY AND NAVY IN CONGRESS.

In the Senate, on the 27th ult., Mr. Cragin introduced a bill, No. 388, for the relief of William Chandler, late a Commander in the U. S. Navy. Referred to Naval Committee. House Resolution, No. 29, authorizing the Secretary of War to detail medical officers of the army to inquire into and report upon the causes of epidemic cholera, was reported from Committee on Military Affairs without amendment.

A petition was presented to the Senate on the 30th ult. from the Dauphin County, (Penn.) Medical Society, in favor of the enactment of a law giving the medical corps of the Army increased rank and pay, and opening the corps for appointment and promotion. Referred to Military Committee; also one from the Board of Trade of Philadelphia, protesting against any reduction of the usual annual appropriation for the preparation and publication of the *Nautical Almanac*. Mr. Sargent, by direction of the Committee on Appropriations, reported the Naval Appropriation Bill with amendments, and gave notice that he would call it up early this week and press for action on it.

The House of Representatives is now engaged, during night sessions, in the consideration of the bill to Revise and Consolidate the Statutes of the United States in force on the 1st day of January, 1873, which is in fact the revision reported by the committee appointed for the purpose. Last week the chapters relating to the Army and Navy were read and amended in some particulars. The word *eight* was stricken out, and *six* inserted, so as to make the number of Brigadier-Generals correspond with the number now in the service. Article 1 of War was amended to read as follows: "Every officer of the Army of the United States hereafter appointed, shall before he enters upon the duties of his office, subscribe these rules and articles." Article 58, was stricken out, regarding regimental officers, it being the same as article 61 in the articles of war of 1806, which was subsequently repealed.

The words "Passed assistant-paymaster" were stricken out in several instances where not needed, as there is now no such grade in the Navy. Section 1889, relative to cadet engineers, was amended so that instead of being warranted by the Secretary of the Navy as engineers, after graduating, they may be appointed by the President and confirmed by the Senate as second assistants.

Section 1897, regarding the appointment of chaplains in the Navy, led to some discussion, as the number actually authorized by existing law to be appointed was a matter of doubt. The section provides that "the President, by and with the advice of the Senate, may appoint chaplains in the Navy." It was held by some that 24 were allowed and by others 18 only. The following amendment, leaving number blank, was finally adopted—the blank to be filled at some subsequent time:

There shall be in the Navy for the public armed vessels of the Navy actually in service, not exceeding \_\_\_\_\_ chaplains, who shall be appointed by the President by and with the advice and consent of the Senate.

Section 1398 was amended to read as follows: "A chaplain shall not be less than twenty-one or more than thirty-five years of age at the time of his appointment. Section 1406 was amended by striking out the words "assistant naval constructors," as there was no existing law authorizing such a grade. A new section was made, viz.: "The officers of vessels of the United States shall in all cases be citizens of the United States," there being a law to that effect.

The section relative to pay of retired officers was amended by inserting after the words *wounds*, the words "or injuries." Section 1664 was amended by striking out the word "ordnance," and inserting "military," so as to read military store-keepers. Section 1797 was amended so that the chief engineers in charge of public buildings and grounds in the District of Columbia should act under regulations presented by the President under the Secretary of War instead of the Secretary of the Interior.

In the House of Representatives on January 26, Mr. McCormick introduced a bill allowing brevet commissions for distinguished services in Indian warfare, (H. R. No. 1511), which provides "that section two of the act entitled 'An act to amend an act of April 10, 1866, for establishing rules and articles for the government of the armies of the United States,' approved March 1, 1869, shall not be construed to prohibit the President from conferring brevet commissions for distinguishing conduct and gallant and meritorious public service during Indian hostilities in the presence of hostile Indians."

The section referred to provides that "commissions by brevet shall only be conferred in time of war, and for distinguishing conduct and public service in the presence of the enemy." In a strictly legal sense, "Indian hostilities" are not considered a state of "war," and "hostile Indians" are not considered "enemies." Consequently without this explanatory provision, officers cannot be breveted for service during "Indian hostilities," and in mortal conflict with "hostile Indians."

A communication was laid before the House from the Secretary of War, transmitting in compliance with a resolution, a report of the Surgeon-general concerning the epidemic of the yellow fever in the United States in 1873.

The following bill, No. 1351, was introduced on the 19th ult. for the relief of Maria P. Harrison:

Authorizing the payment to the widow of the late Captain Napoleon B. Harrison, of \$1,322.14 being the amount of prize-money to which her husband would have been entitled from the schooner Jesse J. Cox and cargo, which was appropriated for the use of the Government.

Bill, No. 1238, introduced in the House by Mr. Frye, authorizing the payment to John B. Slack, late acting third assistant engineer United States Navy, of \$400, being a certain bounty paid him by the State of Maine,

and erroneously yielded up by him on being commissioned an officer.

In the House, on the 29th ult., a letter was presented from the Secretary of War in relation to instructions for the Government of the Armies of the United States in the field, which was referred to the Military Committee and ordered to be printed.

Much of the time of the House was consumed on the 30th ult. in discussing Joint Resolution No. 43, reported from the Committee on Military Affairs, with a recommendation that it pass, authorizing a special court of inquiry in the case of General O. O. Howard. The resolution authorizes and requests the President of the United States to convene a court of inquiry, to consist of not less than five officers of the Army, whose duty it shall be, when so convened, to fully investigate all the charges made against General Howard, contained in the communication of the Secretary of War to the Speaker of the House, of date December 5, 1873, and to report their opinion as well upon moral as upon technical and legal responsibility, for such offences, if any, as may be discovered. An amendment offered by Mr. Frye, "that the accused may be allowed the same right to challenge as allowed by law in trials by court-martial," was the subject of considerable debate, in the course of which a letter was read from General Howard to Mr. Frye, dated January 21, 1874, in which he asked, in the event of the committee recommending a military court to investigate the charges made against him by the Secretary of War, that Mr. Frye would say that he (General H.) knowing his innocence of any conscious wrong act or violation of law, was desirous of having his military and personal character established at the earliest possible moment, and was ready and willing to commit himself at once to the judgment of said court; at the same time he hoped the court would not be appointed, or its proceedings reviewed by the Secretary of War, since he had made the charges, and that it would allow him the privilege, for obvious reasons, of challenge as in ordinary court-martial. Mr. Frye, who had known General Howard from boyhood, paid a handsome tribute to his character as a soldier and a Christian. Mr. Wood, referring to his relations to the origin of the charges, expressed himself as having no unkind feelings towards him—what he did was from a sense of duty. The resolution, as it came from the committee, was directly in the line of avoidance of inquiry, as a court of inquiry could consist of but three members, and none could be ordered until the law was altered, amended or abolished. The Joint Resolution would meet with delay in the Senate. He was in favor of simply a House Resolution, calling on the President to institute a court of inquiry in the case, and he therefore had a substitute which he would like to offer, as follows:

*Resolved*, "That the President be requested to convene a court of inquiry into the charges made against General O. O. Howard by the Secretary of War, and General Vincent and Adjutant-General Townsend."

Messrs. Woodford, Coburn, Butler, of Mass., Hawley, Donnan, Thornburgh, Lamar, Albright, Speer, Young, of Ga., and Hoar indulged in the debate, and the amendments of Mr. Frye was passed by a vote of 172 yeas—nays 64. The Joint Resolution was then passed, as amended.

Bills introduced in the House: No. 1619, by Mr. O'Brien, to provide for paying to the officers and crews of the gun-boats *Kineo* and *Chocura* the proceeds of certain bales of cotton saved by them in the Gulf of Mexico. No. 1621, by Mr. Platt, fixing the pay of civil engineers in the Navy. No. 1640, by Mr. Morey, relative to retired officers of the Army. No. 1675, by Mr. Holman, for the relief of Daniel McClure, Assistant Paymaster-General. No. 1678, by Mr. Coburn, to provide for quartermasters' sergeants. No. 1679, to provide for the Military Academy Band, and fix the pay of its members. No. 1680, to provide for the sale of certain arsenals. No. 1681, to provide for an arsenal of construction, a powder depot, experimental grounds and for other purposes. No. 1685, by Mr. Hurlbut, to reduce the staff of the Army to a peace basis, and to reduce the rank and pay of certain classes of officers. No. 1693, by Mr. Havens, to authorize the employment of Army officers to constitute a board of peace commissioners for the Indians. No. 1714, by Mr. Rusk, to equalize the credit of officers in the Regular Army in computing longevity allowance of pay.

In the House on the 30th inst., a bill was passed (H. R. No. 1401) granting a pension to Mrs. Penelope T. Head. It authorizes the Secretary of the Interior to place her name on the pension roll, and to grant her the same pension as if her late husband Henry H. Head, had been a master in the Navy. The committee reported on this case that Head commanded the schooner *Norman*, employed as a Government transport. The vessel was captured on the Florida coast by the rebels, burned and the crew made prisoners; and that while in prison Head died of starvation. Although not belonging strictly to either the military or the naval service, the committee, considering the fact that the immediate voyage, which resulted in the capture of the vessel, was undertaken by orders from the military commander, that the Government considered themselves responsible and had paid for the vessel, and that Head was considered as a prisoner of war, were of the opinion that he rendered such service as would entitle his widow to a pension.

The bill involved considerable discussion on the ground, taken by some, that it was establishing a precedent and was the beginning of a civil pension list. Others, Mr. Butler, of Mass., chiefly held that Head was brought directly under the orders of the Government that the captain and crew had no choice, and were as much under the orders of a military commander as any soldier, and had to go where they are told. The case was the same as where persons had been granted pensions who had not been regularly mustered into the service.

## THE NATIONAL GUARD.

**STATE MILITARY ASSOCIATION.**—The meeting of this Association for 1874 was held at Albany, commencing on Tuesday, January 27, and the usual routine business was transacted, with the difference, however, that the Association at last performed a little stroke of real work, tending towards progress. We refer to the election of General Husted for its president for the coming year. Inasmuch as the object of the Military Association is supposed to be the securing of legislation for the benefit of the National Guard, the fact of its president being at the same time Speaker of the State Assembly, will give it an influence which it has not had since its first organization, twenty-one years ago. We do not suppose that any one will claim that the Military Association has been of any very brilliant use to the National Guard in the past, and if nothing more is accomplished in 1874-'75 than has been done in former years, it is about time that the association resolve itself into its original elements, and quietly vanish. That something will be accomplished now, we have every reason to hope, for as far as regards conditions, they were never before so favorable to success.

To descend to a brief sketch of particulars, the first session of the year was held in Agricultural Hall, not far from the Capitol, at 7:30 p. m. Tuesday, and was very fairly attended. A great deal of unimportant routine was performed in the way of reports of committees, but nothing of interest transpired till the morning session at 10 a. m. Wednesday. On that occasion General Brown, Chairman of the Committee on Amendments to the Military Code, created a decided sensation by his report. A dead silence prevailed through the room, as the general quietly announced that the committee, after due deliberation, had decided that the Military Code needed no amendment. This report, for the time being, acted as an efficient wet blanket on the spirits of a majority of the officers in the hall. Many of them seemed to have come there prepared for work, and anxious to discuss matters for the welfare of the National Guard, and the report extinguished them in a moment. At last a single officer had the presence of mind to move the acceptance of the report and discharge of the committee, which was promptly acceded to, and the Committee on Amendments retired into—we trust—oblivion. The only matter that remained was the appointment of a Committee on Nominations for the ensuing year, and while this committee was deliberating the meeting adjourned till 4 p. m. The afternoon session was the first indication of a change in the programme. The cut-and-dried aspect of the proceedings thus far was very dispiriting to many, but the interval between the sessions was actively employed by a party of progress which suddenly arose, headed by the redoubtable colonel of the Fifth. At 4 p. m. when the Committee on Nominations, again represented by the inevitable General Brown, announced the result of their deliberations, the colonel massed his forces, moved on the enemy's works, and routed them, horse, foot, and dragoons. In other words, the proposed ticket was laid on the table, by an overwhelming majority, and General Husted was nominated, balloted for, elected, and finally made the unanimous choice of the Association, without let or pause in the proceedings. The rest of the officers were elected by acclamation as fast as nominated, and in fact, the cut-and-dried order once broken up, the contest was over, and the other nominations were a mere toss up. In every case General Brown was made the medium for the convention to deposit a single ballot for the successive nominations, and irrepressible Colonel "Charley" capped the sheaf by nominating the general himself, whose appearance is decidedly clerical, for chaplain for the year. This office, however, was declined by the general. The business over and the regular yearly essay read, the Association adjourned to meet in the Assembly Chamber at 8 p. m., the only business left unfinished being the appointment of a Committee on Amendments to the Code for the coming year. This was announced in the evening, and gave general satisfaction, being composed principally of the party of progress, and of officers of established reputation for discipline. We only recall at present four of the names—Colonels Spencer and Clark, of the First division, and Colonels Blauvelt and Parker, of the Fifth; but the Second and other divisions are also well represented on the committee list. On this committee, of which General Husted is a member ex-officio, devolves a very grave responsibility. If they perform their work conscientiously, its members may make an entire revolution in the National Guard, in the direction of real solid progress, and earn the thanks of every true soldier. If they follow the example of the last year's committee, they will certainly seal the fate of the Association. Fuss and feathers, coupled with old

fogyism, have been its bane in the past. Work is its only salvation in the future. The character of the committee leads us to hope that work will soon be the order of the day.

At the evening session Captain Goodrich, of the Fifth brigade, Second division, staff, delivered the annual address to a brilliant audience, resplendent with gold lace. The address was highly finished, and quite poetical in style, calling forth a well-deserved eulogium from General Husted, who moved a vote of thanks to the orator of the evening, and then at last the New York State Military Association adjourned till the 4th Tuesday of January, 1875. The attendance of members this year was quite full. General Dakin, the retiring president, with some others, represented the Second division. The First was very fully represented, but we regret to say that its commander was not visible till the work was nearly all done. General Husted's staff was all present; the Albanians and Trojans were out in full force, with a very soldierly looking lot of officers, and took active part in the work. Even the Westchester brigade was represented by two brigade staff officers and the field of the Twenty-seventh Infantry. We noticed the staff officers of at least five brigades at the reception, who were very uncomfortable in their aiguillettes, all having them on the wrong shoulder; also, we noticed a corporal and a sergeant of a troop of cavalry, seated cheek by jowl with general officers, apparently thinking it quite the correct thing. Altogether the Military Association of 1874 may be regarded as a bud of considerable promise. Next year will show whether the performance will match it.

On Wednesday evening the members of the association were sumptuously entertained at the residence of Adjutant-General Rathbone, whose hospitality was one of the most agreeable features of the meeting. In this portion of the programme at least, the association has indubitably shown great progress. The essay delivered by Captain Fred. Whittaker, of Mount Vernon, N. Y., before the association, was characteristically pointed, and cannot but have had a healthful effect on those who listened to it. The present officers of the association are General Husted, President, Fifth division; First Vice-President, Colonel Oliver, Tenth infantry; Second Vice-President, General Brinker, Twenty-fifth brigade; Third Vice-President, Colonel Spencer, Fifth regiment; Fourth Vice-President General Sullivan, Twenty-fourth brigade; Treasurer, General Rhoades; Secretary, Major John Peattie; Corresponding Secretary, Lieutenant-Colonel George A. Begy, Fifty-fourth infantry.

**NINTH INFANTRY.**—The non-commissioned officers of this regiment, Colonel Braine, were ordered to assemble at the armory, in full fatigue uniform, on Friday evening, for instruction by the adjutant. The regiment will drill by wings, in full fatigue uniform, at the armory, as follows: Right wing—Companies G, E, H, A, and D, February 17; left wing—Companies B, F, I, K, and C, February 20. Roll-call of companies at 7:45 p. m. The commissioned officers will meet on February 17 and 20, at 7 p. m., for theoretical instruction in Wingate's Manual. Election—Appointments and details: George Auld, first lieutenant; F. A. Matthias, quartermaster-sergeant, vice Jessup, discharged; Wm. F. Wolfe, hospital steward, vice Rushton, discharged; Robert B. Titas, Company B, ordnance sergeant; Jas. B. Dunlap, Company A, sergeant of guard; Julius Guba, Company I, color-sergeant; H. J. Pihet, Company F, right general guide; Geo. H. Cooper, Company G, left general guide; M. Belson, Company K, bugler.

The rifle range is now completed in the armory of the Ninth, and is an original arrangement of Lieutenant-Colonel Hitchcock, and has, therefore, been termed the "Hitchcock" Range, and is so designated over its top. Practice will be commenced at once.

The regimental reception will take place the latter part of March.

**FIRST DIVISION.**—A court-martial has been ordered to pass upon the delinquencies of officers "absent from any parade, encampment, drill, or meeting for instruction," during the year 1873, held pursuant to division orders. Detail: Colonel Emmons Clark, Seventh regiment; Colonel Josiah Porter, Twenty-second regiment; Lieutenant-Colonel Wm. E. Van Wyck, Sixth regiment. The court will assemble at the "rendezvous" Nos. 7, 9, and 11 West Thirteenth street on Thursday, February 26, at 8 o'clock p. m.

A General Court-martial convened at the "rendezvous" on Thursday evening, February 5, for the trial of Colonel Andrew Stanf, Ninety-sixth regiment, and such other officers as were brought before it. The following officers comprised the court: Brigadier-General William G. Ward, First brigade; Colonel Charles R. Braine, Ninth regiment; Lieutenant-Colonel Henry C. Lockwood, Seventy-first regiment. Colonel John Fow-

ler, Jr., division judge-advocate, judge-advocate for the court.

**TWENTY-SEVENTH INFANTRY (WESTCHESTER COUNTY).**—Captain Joseph Marz, Company B, of this command, has been honorably discharged the service at his own request. George Sherwood has been appointed assistant commissary of subsistence, and James C. Courier, engineer officer. The non-commissioned staff, and non-commissioned officers have been directed to report (in full fatigue uniform) to the adjutant for drill and instruction, as follows: Companies A, G, and H at Company A armory February 10 and 24, March 10 and 24; Companies B, C, D, E, and F at Company C armory February 13 and 27, March 13 and 27. The entire battalion is ordered to assemble at the armory of Company C April 7. Assembly each evening at 8 o'clock. The last drill will be under the supervision of the field officers. The orders making the above announcements are worded rather abruptly we regret to see. In announcing the new appointments on the staff, the orders merely say: "The following persons having been appointed." Then follow the names, etc. Of course it is understood the gentlemen appointed are *persons*, and that they have been appointed on the staff of the regimental commander, but we should judge this rather an irregular way of stating the fact. In another instance when, after ordering detachments of the regiment to assemble, the orders direct the entire regiment to assemble by the paragraph: "All together at C Co. armory April 7." We make these criticisms in no spirit of fault finding, and trust our friend Colonel Underhill, and particularly his new chief of staff Adjutant Swain, will look more closely after these little matters.

On Friday evening 30th ult., a very pleasant little surprise party was given in this regiment, by the men of Company B, to their new commander, Captain William Walcott. The occasion was one which seldom occurs in the National Guard, and is a very gratifying evidence of the improving cordiality of feeling in the new regiment, which was once the demoralized Third. It seems that Captain Walcott broke his leg on Christmas Day, and that in spite of his accident, owing to a plaster-of-paris setting, and good crutches, he has managed to attend almost every meeting of his company, drilling them from an arm chair. Considering that Captain Walcott is already past his half century, this evidence of pluck and attention to duty has inspirited his men greatly, and they got up a secret meeting, passed certain resolutions of praise and thanks, which were splendidly engrossed and framed, and then moved down on the captain's house, under command of the lieutenant-colonel of the regiment, and storming the mansion, presented the resolutions. Lieutenant-Colonel Huss made the little speech of presentation, and then came out the fact that the captain was really surprised, and very much affected by the unexpected tribute. His speech in return was one of the best things of the kind we ever heard, heartfelt, earnest, and consequently really eloquent, and the rest of the evening was as pleasant as the beginning. All this at Mount Vernon. Altogether, the Twenty-seventh looks promising. Much work remains to be done, to raise the standard of *drill*, but the discipline is rapidly improving. The Morrisania companies, A and G, have both provided themselves with a full dress uniform, and the Yonkers and Mount Vernon companies will soon follow suit, we hear. Captain Hufnagel, of Company E, has resigned, and will probably be replaced by an ex-officer of the Third cavalry, who has consented to accept the position, if elected. He was always one of the best companies of the old Third, its commander a first-class captain, but as he did not feel in cordial sympathy with the field of the Twenty-seventh, he has very wisely resigned, thereby avoiding a false position. It was our duty, and a painful one we sometimes found it, in former times, frequently to call attention to Captain Hufnagel, during the existence of the old Third, and his constant contests with Colonel Fay. We must admit that, since the organization of the Twenty-seventh, his conduct has been irreproachable towards his superior officers, as it always was excellent to his company, and that we feel a sincere regret at the exit from the National Guard of an officer, who, whatever his faults of temperament, always turned out a strong and well disciplined company. His successor will have to work hard to equal him. Company C is also without a captain, and so is F of New Rochelle. We hope to see the positions filled by good men pretty soon.

**SECOND DIVISION.**—Major-General Woodward has taken the lead in carrying out the excellent instructions of the Adjutant-General of the State regarding rifle practice. Some days since he quietly assembled the commissioned officers of the division, and gave them his views regarding this important subject, and followed this up by the issue of the appended General Orders,

giving detail in full, which orders have been thoroughly circulated among the various commands of the division:

I. The beneficial results that have been obtained from the test at Creedmoor by those regiments of this division that have participated in them have been so great, not only in adding to their military efficiency, but by increasing their *esprit de corps* and bringing them into a generous rivalry with each other and the other organizations of the National Guard throughout the State, as to make it of the greatest importance that the attention of both officers and men should be particularly directed to rifle practice during the present drill season, so that, with the opening of Creedmoor in the spring, the division will be able to hold its own against all competition. For this purpose, as well as to more effectively carry out General Orders No. 30, from General Headquarters, the following course of instruction will be carefully and systematically followed by each regiment of this division upon receipt of this order.

II. Each regimental commander will upon receipt of this order cause a sufficient number of targets for aiming drill, as described in Wingate's Manual for Rifle Practice (par. 91 and 99), to accommodate two full companies, to be placed in the drill-rooms of his command. He will also provide, if possible, one or more tripods for sighting drill (par. 75), and sufficient candles for candle practice by the company (par. 106). His duties as to rifle practice are prescribed in Wingate's Manual (par. 1), and he will assemble his company and field officers at least twice during February and March, for instruction as prescribed in paragraph 1, G. O. No. 30. A. G. O.

III. The commandant of each company will take advantage of all opportunities to explain to his men the directions for the care and preservation of their rifles, as prescribed in paragraphs 31 and 35, impressing upon them that their success as marksmen depends upon their keeping them in good order. For the present, however, the instructions in regard to taking apart and assembling the piece will be omitted.

IV. He will explain to his company the use of the sights upon a rifle, as directed in paragraphs 37 and 73, using such illustrations as are practicable. For this purpose each regiment should provide a black-board and chalk.

V. When each company understand, theoretically, how a rifle should be sighted, in order to shoot correctly, their commanders will have them test their knowledge by sighting drill (par. 74 to 87), until each man knows how his piece should look when aimed correctly.

VI. Position drill (par. 89 and 108) should then be practiced for not less than fifteen minutes on each drill night, until each company commander is satisfied that his men have acquired the necessary steadiness of position and facility in handling their pieces, care being taken, however, not to weary the men.

VII. Aiming drill (par. 118 and 154) will thereafter be practiced, for not less than half an hour, upon at least two drill nights a month. It is desired that each officer should appreciate that the improvement that will follow from this practice is almost as great as from actual target practice on the range, and greater than from target practice in the armory. They will, therefore, thoroughly familiarize themselves with their duties as instructors, and use their best endeavors to make the drill interesting to their men. These drills will be supervised as prescribed in paragraph 155. It is recommended that the men be directed to use two fingers upon the trigger, passing them as far through as that their ends shall touch the wood of the stock on the other side, as in this way the "pull off" of the piece is greatly lessened and all jerk avoided.

VIII. For the purpose of testing the improvement obtained from the aiming drills, each company will expend twenty caps per man monthly in candle practice, as prescribed (par. 106 and 171), a record being made of each shot, and a report of the scores being at once made to regimental headquarters, a copy of which will be posted in the regimental armory by the adjutant upon its receipt. Empty cartridge shells will be used for this practice, which will be reprimed by the regimental armer. The necessary shells and primers will be issued to each regiment upon proper requisition.

IX. The matter of armory target practice is left to the discretion of regimental commanders; it is not, however, considered of much service.

X. A detailed report will be made in duplicate by each company commander on April 1, as prescribed in G. O. No. 30 above referred to, stating:

1. The number of target practice drills held during the previous three months.

2. The ratio of the company, showing the number present and absent at each drill.

3. The score, in details, made by the company in twenty rounds of candle practice during the month of March.

4. Blanks for these returns will be furnished in due season.

XI. It is desired that all officers shall use their utmost endeavors to familiarize themselves with the use of the rifle, both theoretically and practically. They will be required to use their utmost endeavors to excite an interest among their subordinates upon the subject, and to induce them to improve themselves by private practice as well as by the study of the Manual. The omission of the loading and firing from the manual of arms will leave sufficient time during the drill season to carry out the course above prescribed, with little or any interference with the regular course of instruction, but such course being of primary importance, will be given the preference over all others.

To this order is appended the complete score of the Second division team at the first annual meeting of the N. R. A. October last, the names of winners in each, and their scores, and the name and score of every member of the Second division who won a prize in any of the matches. General Woodward has set an example which we trust other division commanders will not be slow to follow. Colonel Wingate, a recent appointment on the staff of the Second division commander, has already commenced work as instructor in the school of musketry, and is now on tour of inspection, and lending his valuable services in erecting ranges in the armories, etc. The Twenty-third, under the division inspector's supervision, has begun to get its range in shape, and up and at 'em. The Thirty-second and the other fine commands of the division will commence business without delay. We look for some good shooting next summer from the Second division.

**TWENTY-THIRD INFANTRY.**—The handsome and spacious armory of this command on Saturday evening last was filled to excess with a select assemblage, gathered to witness a review of the regiment in full-dress, and to participate in the second of the series of social concerts and hope so popular with the many friends of the regiment. The battalion paraded only eight commands of twelve files, six companies occupying the south side of the armory, the two left companies facing inward towards the band and detachment of the drum corps on the right. Lieutenant-Colonel Farnham was in command, and the regiment made a very handsome display in line, the dress parade formation being very well performed. The band, however, in beating off, became somewhat mixed in its attempt to wheel down the front of the two left companies on the return, no change being made in the time. The manual was exceedingly well executed, and the battalion appeared notably steady throughout. At the close of the dress parade the regimental recruiting medal was presented; after which the battalion line was broken and reformed for review, Major-General Woodward being the reviewing officer, accompanied by his staff. The review was not a success, we regret

to say. It was undertaken according to the prescribed rules of Upton—the usual innovations for indoor reviews, such as breaking into fours, moving forward, and forming company, etc., now so popular on these occasions, being very properly omitted. The size of the room, and the small front of the battalion, rendered these innovations unnecessary, sufficient room for wheeling into column being made by simply moving the battalion, by side step, a few paces to the left. A marker was posted at the first change of direction, but the right company (A), by an apparent error of the guide, failed to wheel on the indicated point, and was compelled to oblique immediately after wheeling to prevent the column sweeping away the reviewing party; the other portion of the battalion followed in the footsteps of the right company. The successive orders, including the manual change from a "right shoulder" to a "carry," as each company approached the reviewing point, tended to confuse matters, and marred the review to no little degree. The second company (B) in column retained the "right shoulder" as it passed the reviewing officer, and the sixth company (I) saved itself from a similar mishap immediately in front of the reviewing point. Errors of this nature, particularly under the circumstances, in our opinion, are of minor importance, which leads us to suggest the abolition of these successive changes at indoor or reviews in limited space. Moreover, there is a prevailing opinion that the battalion commandant should give the command, *Carry Arms* in approaching the reviewing point, instead of leaving it to company commanders. He did not do it in this instance, however, so that the company commanding officers had to depend on themselves. Lieutenant-Colonel Farnham omitted also to "present arms" at the close of the review. The dressing of the line of officers at reviews of this character seems an unnecessary waste of time, and only obligatory when the commanding and reviewing officers are mounted. It would be quite an effort for a regimental commander on foot to walk to the right and return if the regiment was at its maximum strength. The company distance at the review was unusually bad, as was exhibited when the battalion wheeled into line. In fact the Twenty-third has seldom given so poor an exhibition, and it is to be particularly regretted, since the "eyes of Brooklyn" are upon the regiment. Colonel Wingate, of General Woodward's staff, made his *début* in full uniform at this review. Dancing to the good music of Contorno followed the military ceremonies, and it was enjoyed until almost midnight.

**SIXTY-NINTH INFANTRY.**—On Monday evening last this command assembled at the State Arsenal for battalion drill. Owing to the storm the battalion paraded only eight command of eight files, the formation being completed at 9 o'clock p. m. A variety of movements were attempted, many of which by reason of the small fronts were blurred. A few of the principal movements were fairly performed, but generally there appeared to be a lack of familiarity with Upton on the part of the company commanders, and a want of promptness in repeating the commands of the colonel, and in a number of instances the loss of distance was noticeable. In the movement "by right of companies to the rear into column" the companies continued the march to the rear, instead of halting and coming to the front when the left of the company reached the line; and in the movement "by company break from the right to march to the left" the men completely ignored the "left turn." The formation and reduction of square and several of the plowments into column were good, but the marching in most cases was very poor. The drill as a whole was not up to the standard of the brigade, and Colonel Cavanaugh should immediately call his officers together for theoretical and practical instruction in the school of the company and battalion.

#### VARIOUS ITEMS.

**COMPANY H,** Captain Henry Platte, will enjoy a Kraenzchen on the 24th.

**CAPTAIN WILLIAMS,** of Company G, Twenty-third, has been commissioned. Now what are they going to do about it?

The "Chicken" of the Seventh company, Seventh Regiment, has not returned from Europe yet, and the members, therefore, are sad.

Which really is now the worse regiment, the Eleventh or Ninety-sixth, is the question now being discussed in the Second brigade. Some say both.

The next social concert and hop of the Twenty-third regiment will take place at the regimental armory, Brooklyn, Saturday evening, February 14.

A MILITARY concert will be given under the auspices of the First regiment Pennsylvania N. G., at the American Academy of Music, Philadelphia, February 19.

**COLONEL RODNEY C. WARD,** of the Twenty-third regiment, has the sympathy of not only his regiment in his recent severe affliction, but of hosts of friends in the National Guard.

The annual ball of the Separate Troop Cavalry, Eleventh brigade, Captain Kreuscher, will take place April 13. Captain K says there will be no night mares on that night.

The Board of Directors of the National Rifle Association held their regular monthly meeting, on Tuesday last, at the office of the Treasurer, General Martin T. McMahon, but no business was transacted except that of a routine nature.

The Seventh regiment charity fund, amounting to \$4,361.96, being the net proceeds of the regimental charity ball held a few weeks since, has been presented to the New York Association for the improvement of the poor.

**GENERAL LOGAN,** from the Committee on Military Affairs in the Senate of the United States, has reported unfavorably on the bill providing for arming and equipping the whole body of the militia of the United States.

The foundation of the Thirteenth regiment armory is still under investigation. We cannot understand why General Jordon, with all his well-known abilities as a builder, allowed a contract to be so loosely carried out. The delay will be unfortunate for the regiment.

**INSPECTOR-GENERAL MORRIS** is making another raid on the books and papers of the various organizations of the National Guard. This week he has been inspecting the documents of the Second division. As all this was gone through with some two months since, some officers are enquiring why is this thus?

The Twenty-second band concerts will be continued every Monday evening until April 6. Gilmore, the new leader of the band, is gradually placing his musical organization in the front ranks of the military bands of the world. The *début* of the band at the head of the Twenty-second on street parade, is to be the sensation this spring.

A DETACHMENT of the Grand Army of the Republic will shortly enter the armory of the Forty-seventh, in the shape of a new company. Captain Perry, an intelligent veteran of the war, who carries his badge of honor in an empty sleeve, will command the new organization.

LIEUTENANT "Jack" Sniffen, of the Seventh, has resigned his commission, and has been appointed aid on the staff of Major-General Mott, chief of cavalry Egyptian army, with the rank of colonel. The major-general is still in New York, and so is Colonel "Jack." The regiment may tender its favorite ex-officer an escort when he starts for the Oriental land.

COLONEL JOSEPH BURGER, of the Twenty-eighth, is convaling, and will again take an active command of the battalion. On Monday evening the left wing was, strange to say, drilled by Adjutant Pope. This was the "mouthpiece" of the battalion commander with a vengeance. Where are the field officers of the Twenty-eighth? General Dakin will have to look into this matter.

On Monday evening Colonel Roehr drilled the officers of the Thirty-second, for the third time, in rifle practice. At the conclusion of the drill the monthly meeting was held, but only the routine business transacted. Lieutenant Valentine Ebel tendered his resignation. Brevet Major and Adjutant Fred. J. Karcher has been assigned temporarily to the command of the "Roehr Guards," Company F. Leave of absence for six months has been granted Captain George Ross, of Company A.

On Wednesday afternoon the members of Company H, Twelfth regiment, also the officers and members of the regiment, paraded an escort and mourners to the remains of their late commander and officer, Lieutenant John J. Heintz, Jr. The deceased was a young and favorite officer of the regiment, and died from the injuries received by the fall of the scaffold at Dr. Talmadge's church in Brooklyn, last week. The company paraded thirty miles front, accompanied by the regimental band and drum corps, and after the funeral at the church, accompanied the remains to the cemetery. The deceased who at the time of his death was acting Captain of Company H—was a pains-taking instructor and a good soldier, and the regiment loses a warm supporter by his untimely taking off.

In reply to the challenge put forth in the name of the Irish team, and which was conditionally accepted by the Amateur Club of New York City on behalf of American riflemen, Colonel Wingate, President of the A. R. C., has received a letter from Mr. A. B. Leach, of Dublin, to the effect that at the time the challenge was issued he had no knowledge of the existence of a National Rifle Association in the United States, and that the programme for the international contest will be shortly prepared, and submitted to the association for approval, etc. In conclusion Mr. Leach says: "I am authorized to say that my friends are highly gratified at the flattering terms in which you write. I have always considered that we cannot know too much of one another, and that whichever side wins in this great trial of skill and judgment, we will have an agreeable opportunity of improving the acquaintance, if not securing the friendship, of those we may have the honor and pleasure of being for a time associated with in your great country."

FIRST-LIEUTENANT E. H. SOPER, who was the only member of Company G, Thirteenth regiment saved, when that command was disbanded for mutiny, is still held to duty in the Thirteenth, and also held accountable for the equipments which the members of that company are wearing in the Twenty-third regiment. Now our good-natured friend Soper begins to find these equipments a heavy load, and has asked the opinion of the Chief of Ordnance in the matter, and in his letter to that office, the enthusiasm of our young friend, regarding Company G, Twenty-third, is perfectly characteristic of all members of the now defunct "Brooklyn City Guard." He informs General Knox substantially, that the company disbanded is now doing fifty percent better duty for the State in the Twenty-third, and that it is bound to take its place among the best companies of the National Guard. This is all very well, Soper, but what has it got to do with those equipments? Why don't you turn them in and get relieved from your unpleasant position?

We fear many company commanders are making a mountain out of a molehill in the matter of instruction in rifle practice ordered by the Adjutant-General. The matter is very simple, and should not to any great extent interfere with other military duties. Let two or even one of the customary four monthly drills be devoted exclusively to rifle practice. Let the battalion assemblies also be similarly divided for the same purpose. The change is beneficial, from the monotony of the schools of the soldier and battalion, and we feel assured no one will observe any material difference in these latter movements next spring. But who will say that, after proper instruction this winter, a marked difference will not be observed in the shooting at Creedmoor? The great trouble has been the natural general ignorance of officers regarding rifle practice, and an apparent indisposition to take any further weight on their minds. Where Upton is neglected we do not expect much of Wingate, but where Upton has a good hold there also will be Wingate. This rifle practice business in armories should be simplified to the greatest extent, and the commander of the Second division, Brooklyn, as will be observed elsewhere, has gone the right way about it.

**MASSACHUSETTS.**—The new militia law does not as yet appear to be thoroughly comprehended by many of the officers and men composing the militia of this State, we learn from the comments from Boston exchanges that some commanders have lately been illegally discharging men from their commands, that to discharge a man from the service it requires according to the law the consent of the commander-in-chief, but this has not been done in many cases, as the men have been told they were discharged and need not consider themselves any longer in the militia.

The question of uniform is now one of much interest to the military men of Massachusetts. Enlistments were made under the law of 1873, with the expressed understanding of that law that a new uniform was to be furnished, but it was found that no appropriation had been made by the Legislature. The present uniforms were adopted under the acts of 1869, the sum of \$20 only being allowed to supply each. The average cost of every uniform has proved to be about \$42, the members individually or the companies supplying the deficiency of appropriation to furnish a uniform that the young soldiers of the militia might take some pride in wearing. It would seem now that the enlistments having been effected under the law of last year a sufficient appropriation will be called up for to furnish neat uniforms if the authorities expect the militarily inclined young men of the Commonwealth to take that degree of interest in their respective organizations so essential to success. A question has been raised by officers of the First Battalion of Cavalry relative to the right of the inspectors to examine the uniforms of at least two of the companies. It appears that \$80 were allowed each cavalryman for uniforms, and as the companies were already provided with acceptable uniforms, purchased by themselves, the company went into the company treasuries. The uniforms are now claimed as independent property, while at headquarters it is claimed that the State has an interest in the uniforms, and that any refusal to obey instructions from a superior officer relative to furnishing uniforms for inspection will subject the officer so refusing to a court-martial. These uniforms as long as they are carried on the State list are of course subject to inspection, and it seems strange that any portion of the First Cavalry should entertain so erroneous an idea.

**COLONEL GORDON,** (more commonly known as Chinese Gordon) is at present in England, making the necessary arrangements for his expedition to the regions of the White Nile, where he will follow up the footsteps of Baker. The expedition is being fitted out at the expense of the Khedive, and it is reported that over five hundred thousand dollars have already been placed at Colonel Gordon's disposal; he is expected to leave Cairo, in command of the expedition about the commencement of March, and it is considered probable that it will occupy more than three years before the object is completed.

## GENEVA AND THE SWISS.

Envoy of Fleet Surgeon A. L. Gilson, under Rear Admiral Case's General Order No. 2.

At Geneva, like most other European resorts of reputed salubrity, invalids are required to exercise unusual precautions. The change from the semi-exposed Grand Quai to the narrow, shaded, and always cold back streets, is dangerous to even robust constitutions. Geneva is also subject to frequent occurrences of the "Bise," a wind blowing from the northward over Lake Leman, and during its continuance, usually three days, the entire community experiences its deleterious effects, and, dreading it like the mistral of Southern Europe, exclude it as far as possible by tightly closing doors and windows.

Geneva is one of the cleanest and most attractive of European cities. The new streets are regularly laid out, well paved, drained, and lighted, and modern houses are supplied with gas, and with water from the lake. A dread of lead pipes induces the lower classes to prefer water from wells, which is heavily charged with earthy salts, or what is common among both rich and poor, the entire substitution of red wine for water as a beverage. The improvements which have been inaugurated will be materially accelerated by the magnificent bequest to the city by the late Duke of Brunswick, a sum variously estimated from twelve to twenty millions of dollars, according to the supposed value of the diamonds which constitute a large portion of his wealth. The institutions of learning, which are numerous and for which it has always been famous, and the liberality of its laws, have made the city the home of many literary celebrities, like Voltaire, Rousseau, Byron, Beranger, Calvin, and Madame de Staél. The universality of education, the strict impartiality with which the laws are administered, and the requirement of civil obligations and military service from rich and poor without distinction, contrive to make it the model republic of Europe. A young Swiss merchant, connected with my own family by marriage, was recently compelled to absent himself from home and business, during the annual manoeuvres of the regiment to which he was assigned. There was no escape, even had he sought it, and this cheerful acquiescence in the laws by every citizen is a surer guarantee of the perpetuity of the republican form of government, which already dates back so far, than the military proficiency which is so carefully maintained. The universality of Calvinistic teaching no doubt throws a gloom over the Genevese. They are not fond of amusements, and from their earliest years are accustomed to abstemiousness and self-denial which color their after life, and contribute to the national reputation for parsimony. They are industrious, frugal, and domestic, and parents and children manifest the most remarkable mutual attachment. There is nothing of the undisguised immorality prominent in the thoroughfares of English cities, nor any of the tolerated public resorts of the demi and basse-monde which are so attractive to our countrymen abroad in Paris, Berlin, and Vienna. The public women are all registered, subjected to weekly sanitary inspection, and are only allowed in the streets after dark with written permits, which they must always be prepared to exhibit to the police.

The American who remains long enough in Geneva to leave the excellent, though expensive hotels, and live as the people do in apartments, will soon realize how little the latter can compare with his own home, however humble, in domestic comfort and economy. A suite of eight small rooms on the 4me. étage (fourth story) costs three hundred dollars a year, and many families live at still further elevations, where provisions, fuel, garbage, etc., have to be laboriously carried up and down. A distinguished physician in Barcelona, where a similar custom prevails, as indeed universal in Europe, attributes much of the leucorrhea women and the spinal affections of both sexes, to the fatigues of daily ascending and descending so many flights of steps.

The annually increasing number of visitors to Geneva has had the effect to make it one of the most expensive cities in Europe. Beef sells at fifty cents per pound; other meats, fruits and vegetables, are proportionally dear, and fuel is so expensive that, notwithstanding the severity of the winter, few families use other than the white porcelain stove, in which a wood fire is made in the morning, and which would accomplish little towards warming the two or three apartments, between the walls of which it is placed, were it not for their double windows.

The transient visitor will find much to interest him in the numerous parks, the botanical gardens which have been especially arranged for the convenience of students, the several museums of fine arts and history, the schools of painting and music, and the streets and buildings of the old city. The environs are especially attractive, and furnish occasions for many pleasant excursions on foot or in a carriage by land, or by steamer on the lake. Of these the confluence of the Rhone and Arve, whose blue and yellow streams unite and flow side by side without intermingling, the palatial summer residence of the Rothschilds, the home of Madame de Staél, and the chateau of Voltaire at Ferney, are most frequented. The latter village, which is in French territory, has a present notoriety as the refuge of Monseigneur Mermilliod, hitherto a bishop in partibus, but recently nominated by the Pope Bishop of Geneva. The Cantonal Government having interdicted the use of such a title or the exercise of episcopal functions without its consent, and Monseigneur Mermilliod having treated its remonstrance with indifference, he was escorted beyond the border and informed that even tolerant Geneva could not tolerate him. The consequences of his antagonism to the government have reacted upon his co-religionists; for the State support, which was given to the Roman Catholic establishment, in common with all other denominations, will now be

bestowed upon the old catholics, for whom a fine church is in the course of erection.

Of all the environs of Geneva, by far the most attractive is the French town of Mounier, in the department of Haute Savoie, which is reached, by diligence or carriage, in about two hours, and from which, or from the summit of the Grande Salive, on the slope of which it is situated, are to be had magnificent views of the lakes, the valleys of the Rhone and Arve, Mont Blanc, the Mole and Jura Alps. . . .

## FOREIGN ITEMS.

THE Commissariat Department in the British service, which on the accession to office of Sir Henry Starks at the War Department, changed its name to the Control Department, and suffered such a deep incision from the cheeseparing knife, is, we understand, about to undergo some further manipulations and introductions, as the innovations so recently made do not appear to work on an easy wheel. Poor Sir Henry!

IT appears the distance which has been estimated that the troops under Sir Garnet Wolseley will cover during their march on Coomassie, has been slightly exaggerated, as it is stated, upon a reliable authority, that the point at which the expedition will cross, the Praha, is only sixty miles from the Coast, and that the capital is not more than fifty miles beyond this. Therefore should Sir Garnet's troops be permitted to march without impediment, they will not cover more than one hundred and ten miles, instead of one hundred and seventy miles, as has been stated.

A RECENT army circular contains an announcement to the effect that sets of "Kriegsspiel" are now supplied by the War Office to officers of the British Army at the following rates:—Box of men, £2; set of maps, mounted and colored, £4 10s.; maps unmounted, £1 14s. 2d.; book of rules, 1s. 6d. These different articles are all that are required for playing the "game of war," which has long formed the chief of the professional amusements of officers of the Prussian army. In complete sets the "Kriegsspiel" may be obtained at the reduced price of £6 10s.

The Duke of Edinburgh has been appointed a Colonel of the Prussian Army attached to the 95th Infantry Regiment of Coburg-Gotha. The *Cologne Gazette* states that the appointment is the first instance on record of an English Prince obtaining a Prussian commission. English Princes have in former times been named honorary or proprietary colonels of regiments, which consequently bore their name—such, for instance, was the Duke of Cumberland, afterwards King Ernest Augustus of Hanover—but the Duke of Edinburgh is the first who has really held a colonel's rank in the Army.

THE German park of siege artillery will, according to the new regulations, consist of 400 pieces of ordnance, namely, 40 bronze 9-centimetre guns, 120 bronze 12-centimetre guns, 120 short cast-steel 15-centimetre guns, 40 long 15 centimetre guns of cast-steel with forged iron hoops, 40 bronze rifled 21-centimetre mortars, and 40 bronze smoothbore 15-centimetre mortars. It is expected to be complete as early as next March. A number of short 21-centimetre guns and 28-centimetre hooped mortars will be added shortly. The species of cannon upon which most reliance is placed is the 15-centimetre gun, a new type of ordnance which is supposed to be unequalled in trueness of aim and for firing breaches. For this reason the number of such pieces in the siege park will doubtless be still further augmented. The fact that this has not yet been done is accounted for by the requirements of the same arm for defensive purposes at fortified places.

WHILE we are hastening to add iron shields to our vast sea-board works at Gibraltar, Portsmouth, and Plymouth, says the *Pall Mall Gazette*, the first use of this new material for fortification made by the Germans is at Metz. It is being specially applied in the first place to the great St. Privat outwork, a fort not in any way connected with the field of Gravelotte, but traced out and left in a merely inchoate state by the French due south of the city. Here it is intended to use iron plates for the flanking batteries which sweep the valleys of the Moselle and Seille, while two iron turrets to the rear are to command the approach to Fort St. Quentin on the other side of the former river. The work is on the principle tested at Tegel some time ago, where single shields, each for one heavy gun, are alternated with high earthen ramparts, so that a plate being struck out of its place will not affect the use of the work seriously. It is proposed to apply this system hereafter to the protection of the mouths of the chief German tidal rivers.

THE following is the course of lectures, arranged by the Council, to be delivered at the Royal United Service Institution of London:—Jan. 19. Capt. Shortland, R.N., "Economy of Coal, as viewed by the Commander of a Steamer;" Jan. 19, Mr. Marsham Adams, B.A., "On Adams's Patent Mensurator and Colometer;" Jan. 30, Lieut.-Col. H. Schaw, R.E., "Field Engineering, illustrated by some of the Operations of the German Engineers during the war of 1870-71;" Feb. 2, Dr. Leith Adams, "On the recruiting question from a Military and a Medical point of view;" Feb. 13, Staff-Surg. Major J. D. Macdonald, "On Ventilation of Ships, especially of Low-freeboard and Hospital Ships;" Feb. 16, Surg.-Gen. W. C. Maclean, "On Sanitary Precautions to be observed in the moving and camping of Troops in Tropical Regions;" Feb. 27, Major-Gen. M. H. Syng, R.E., "On Suggested Improvements in Sanitary Arrangements for Barracks, Camps," &c.; March 2, Capt. W. S. Crondace, "On Crondace's Stellar Azimuth Compass and Ordnance Night Light-vane or Collimator;" March 2, Mr. R. Griffiths, "On further Experiments with his Bow and Stern Screw Propeller;" March 13, Major-Gen. J. L. Vaughan, C.B., "On the retreat of the 10,000, a Military Study for all Time;" March 16, Mr. E. J. Reed, C.B., late Chief Constructor of the Navy, "On Ironclad Navies;"

March 27, Lieut.-Col. G. Cheaney, R.E., "The English Genius and Army Organization;" and March 30, Mr. Nathaniel Barnaby, Chief Naval Architect, Admiralty, "On the Trials of Her Majesty's ship *Devastation*."

THE French military authorities still adhere to the chassepot as the most approved weapon. Five models are at present before them, and of these four are mere improvements on the existing chassepot. The great factory at St. Etienne is in full activity, and nearly two thousand guns are turned out every day. The stocks are made at different workshops, but all the metal work is undertaken at the factory itself. For this purpose nearly two thousand workmen are employed, and the greatest precautions are taken to keep particular branches of the manufacture secret. It is said that emissaries from Germany and Italy have endeavored, under various disguises, to gain admission to the arsenal, and very stringent regulations are observed in granting permission to visitors to view the works. The design exhibited as rival to the chassepot weapon introduced in 1866 differs chiefly in the suppression of the needle, and the adoption of a metallic cartridge. An ingeniously contrived lever, as soon as the powder has exploded, forces the empty socket out, so that a fresh cartridge may be put in. In practice it is found that this lever is liable to get out of order. Apart from this radical objection, the necessary stock of cartridges with which the soldier should be supplied, say ten or twelve, would be a considerable weight, and the cost of their production materially dearer than those used in the chassepot. Indeed, the French still speak of the chassepot, with the improvement it is to receive, as a perfect weapon, and in every way superior to the firearm first adopted by the Prussians. In the factory at St. Etienne the greatest care is used to prevent the secret of the design of this weapon being known even to the workmen. The necessary division of labor greatly assists this, and it is said that the formation of the lock occupies more than a dozen hands.

THE treaty concluded between Russia and the Ameer of Bokhara provides: The frontiers of Bokhara and Russia remain unchanged, with the exception of the territory recently annexed by Russia on the right bank of the Amou Daria, and which Russia cedes to Bokhara. All the caravan roads, between Bokhara and Russia pass exclusively through the territories of those States. All Russian and Bokhara vessels are admitted to free navigation in each other's territory. Russian merchants have the right to construct harbors on the banks of the Amou Daria, in the territory of Bokhara. The government of Bokhara is responsible for the security of such harbors, and the site chosen for them must be approved by the Russian authorities. All places in Bokhara are open to Russian commerce, and Russian caravans enjoy free transit through the whole of the territory of Bokhara. A tax of 2½ per cent ad valorem is levied upon all goods sent from Russia to Bokhara, and vice versa; and a tax of 1.40 per cent will be levied in the Turkestan territory. The goods sent by Russian merchants to countries bordering on Bokhara shall pass free of duty through the territory of the latter. Russian merchants shall be permitted to establish factories and commercial agencies in any part of Bokhara, and the merchants of the latter shall be entitled to possess such establishments in Turkestan territory. Both governments engage to consider all commercial treaties as sacred, and to faithfully fulfil them. The subjects of each country are permitted to exercise all trades in the territory of the other, and to acquire landed property subject to the laws of the country. Russian subjects will receive travelling certificates from their government enabling them to travel freely in Bokhara. The Bokhara government engages not to harbor refugees or other fugitives coming from Russia, whatever may be their nationality. The Ameer of Bokhara abolishes the slave trade throughout his dominions.

THE *Deutsche Nachrichten* says: The decision of the German Government to adopt Krupp's new gun for the German field Artillery was taken at the same time as that of the French Government to adopt the Reffye gun. While, however, in the opinion of competent judges, this German decision signifies a progress in the science of Artillery which is likely to lead to a change of the armament of the field Artillery of all large European Armies, the French decision appears to be only a makeshift, and amounts in fact to an admission of inability to produce anything better than the Reffye gun, in spite of all endeavors made to this effect since 1871, or rather since 1867, for it will be remembered that the Reffye gun was already in use during the Franco-German war. Possibly the decision may have been taken in order to provide the French field Artillery as soon as possible with gun of some kind. Last summer it was stated that 2,200 pieces of Reffye cannon were ready, while the number required was from 4,000 to 4,800. These will probably be ready for delivery by the end of 1875. Of the guns now ready 400 have steel barrels. The Reffye gun is a breech-loader, having a calibre of 8.5 centimetres. Guns having bronze barrels are at the breech and in the chamber lined with steel; they are somewhat longer than those altogether of steel, and there is also a difference in the system of rifling. The gun-carriage is of iron. The initial velocity of the shot is 378 metres, and the gun will carry altogether a distance of 5,500 metres. French reports state that the system of closing the breech is very defective, and there are also said to be other defects which affect seriously the efficiency of the gun. The new German field gun throws a ball with an initial velocity of 533 metres, and the gun compares equally favorably with the French gun on all other points. It is said that Herr Krupp has undertaken to furnish all the guns required within two years, also by the end of 1875, the same time at which the French field Artillery will be fully armed; the order for the manufacture of the lighter gun was already given a few months ago. The decision of the German military authorities on this point was not taken until after numberless trials, ex-

ending over several years, and several batteries were already armed with the new gun last spring. The money for the new armament has already been voted by the Reichstag, and at Krupp's works at Essen every preparation has been made to carry on the manufacture without interruption. We may add that the whole Infantry will be armed with the new Mauser rifle also by the end of 1875; several regiments have already been supplied with it and are now undergoing a course of practical instruction.

Writing from Cannes, on Dec. 30, a correspondent of the London *Daily Telegraph* says: "South of Cannes, in front of the harbor, may be seen Ste. Marguerite Island, which is four miles in circumference, and is associated with one of the most interesting historical problems that have ever perplexed the world—that of the Man with the Iron Mask; and it is on

this island-fortress that an Ex-Marshals of France is now a prisoner, in the strictest sense of the term, and no one has been allowed to see him. I am inclined to think, from inquiries I have made, that he occupies the very room in which the Man of the Iron Mask languished so many years, and looks out of the window from which the unknown prisoner flung into the sea the silver plate on which he had previously scratched his name and history. It is a lofty apartment and not nearly so uncomfortable as might be expected; for it contains a fireplace and a large window, the latter grated, however, with three strong iron bars. The prisoner has been allowed a servant, a medical man when necessary, and a priest. These persons, together with M. De St. Mars, governor of the fortress, the prisoner's family, and Col. Villette are, I believe, all who will be permitted to see and converse with the Ex-Marshals for a long time to come. \*\* The island

possesses a little bay and a port; but its chief beauty is its magnificent forest of pine trees. The Ex-Marshals may be seen pacing up and down on the little terrace near his room, and even that he is allowed to do only at stated hours. He has his son, a little boy of seven years, with him, and Col. Villette, his faithful friend and companion, who, I am told, has given in his resignation in order that he may remain with his former commander. Madame la Marechale is in Cannes with her other child. The fort is garrisoned by two companies of the One Hundred and Eleventh Regiment of the Line. It would be difficult, perhaps, to find a more agreeable prison than the fortress of Ste. Marguerite, and I believe that every comfort consistent with Bazaine's present position is afforded him; but at the same time the sentence which deprives him of his liberty is with all scrupulousness carried into execution."

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